

Queen's Speech unveils 16 Bills

Crackdown on terror groups by Thatcher

- The Government yesterday announced a series of initiatives to combat terrorism in Northern Ireland
- A new Act will include measures to restrict the financing of paramilitaries and their involvement in politics
- The move came as a surprise addition to the Queen's Speech which included a package of 16 Bills
- They included the privatization of the water and electricity supply industries and reform of the Official Secrets Act

By Richard Ford and Jamie Dettmer

The Government stepped up its anti-terrorist drive in Northern Ireland yesterday by announcing a crackdown on paramilitary finances and politics and the toughening of remission regulations for those convicted of terrorism.

The Prime Minister surprised the Commons after the Queen's Speech by saying that the rules governing remission would be tightened to deter those contemplating violence.

The changes, which will be part of a new Prevention of Terrorism Act, are a triumph for the retiring chief constable of the RUC and senior Army officers, who have told ministers that a significant proportion of people released from prison rejoin terrorist squads.

The Act will include measures to cut the financing of republican and loyalist paramilitaries. A law will also be introduced requiring candidates in local elections to disclose violence. It will be an offence to handle money for terrorist organizations and police will be given the power to trace and seize the assets of those funding terrorism.

Ministers have already curbed the right to silence in the province's courts and

Queen's Speech: MAIN BILLS

● Water privatization. Sells off 10 water authorities; sets up a legal framework for water quality, pollution control under a rivers authority.

● Electricity privatization. CEGB split into two competing companies; 12 new supply companies jointly to own National Grid.

● Official Secrets. Removes the catch-all provisions of Section 2 of the 1911 Act

● Security. Puts MIS on statutory footing for first time.

● Football. A national membership admission scheme.

● Children. Reforms of the care and custody of children, in the wake of Cleveland.

● Social security. Tightens unemployment benefit rules.

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banned the broadcasting of direct statements by members and supporters of the IRA's political wing, Sinn Féin, and 10 other republican and loyalist groups.

Under the latest proposals, the automatic 50 per cent remission for terrorists serving fixed sentences of five years or more will be cut to a third - similar to the system in the rest of the UK.

Anyone jailed for a year or more who is convicted of another terrorist offence during remission will serve the unexpired portion of the original jail term plus the new sentence.

Mr Ian Stewart, Minister of State at the Northern Ireland Office, said the Government did not believe the existing system provided a sufficient deterrent.

He said 20 per cent of terrorists released in 1984 were convicted of fresh terrorism offences within two years.

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Sell-offs top the Tories' agenda

By Robin Oakley
Political Editor

The Government yesterday launched a package of 16 Bills in the Queen's Speech, including the privatization of the water and electricity supply industries, new rules on company mergers and the reform of the Official Secrets Act.

There will be a new crackdown on terrorism, involving longer sentences and the seizure of funds. Anti-crime measures include the imposition of a national football club membership scheme to combat hooliganism.

There is also to be a Bill imposing a new accountability on the security services.

The series of measures, which includes tougher conditions for those seeking unemployment benefit, will lead to bitter exchanges between the parties.

But Government business managers expect much less opposition from their own supporters than the poll tax and health charges occasioned in the last session.

In a particularly bad-tempered opening to the new session both Mrs Thatcher and Mr Neil Kinnock were constantly interrupted and harassed by the opposing benches.

Mr Kinnock said the privatization of a natural resource like water and of an essential service like electricity fell outside the boundaries of common sense and common interest.

"There is no reason of public service or consumer interest which justifies these sales," Mr Kinnock and Mr Paddy Ashdown, the SLD leader, criticized the legislative programme as failing to back up

television interviews that he would not object to a meeting between Acas and management. However, he stressed that the Government was not prepared to return to the negotiating table.

Mr Clarke said: "There is no question of going back to negotiations. We have finished the regrading exercise. We cannot go back to the beginning of this whole process. It would be a complete waste for £1 billion to remain in the till rather than going into nurses' pay packets."

Nu and Cohn said earlier that if Mr Clarke agreed to conciliation they would recommend that members call off industrial action, including working to grade. This concession appeared to be part of an agreement with the RCN not to see Mr Clarke independently of the other unions.

However, the RCN emphasized it reserved its right to see Mr Clarke on its own. Later, the college announced that a meeting would be held on December 5.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, refused yesterday to reopen talks on nurses' grading in spite of a joint union approach to the conciliation service, Acas.

The nursing unions met Acas officials for "exploratory talks" after an approach from the Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cohse), National Union of Public Employees (Nupe) and the Royal College of Nursing (RCN).

However, the discussions appeared unlikely to resolve the dispute, which has resulted in nurses taking widespread industrial action after intervention by Mr Clarke.

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Manacled murder suspect remanded



David Evans manacled to a gendarme leaving Pont d'Ain police station yesterday en route to court, where he was remanded awaiting the arrival of British police officers to question him.

Police to question Evans on lost girl

From David Sapsted
Bourg-en-Bresse

Two detectives from north Wales are expected to travel to Lyons in eastern France today to begin questioning David John Evans, the farm worker suspected of murdering schoolgirl Anna Humphries.

Their departure was held up yesterday while they waited for legal documents to be processed by the Crown Prosecution Service.

Mr Evans, aged 31, who had been held overnight at the small town of Pont d'Ain about 40 miles from Lyons, where he had been arrested 24 hours earlier, appeared briefly before an examining magistrate for identification.

Mr Evans, for whom a warrant for suspected murder has been issued in Britain, was remanded in custody by the magistrate. M. Achille Keriakides. He was arrested on Monday afternoon as he hitch-hiked along a road close to Pont d'Ain.

Mr Evans, head bowed and surrounded by armed officers, was taken from the police station by van to the court house 15 miles away yesterday.

"I have nothing to say," he told reporters as he was led in his hands manacled behind his back. He was then taken in a police convoy to the St Paul's prison in Lyons, where he spent the night in a cell, not far from that of Klaus Barbie, the Nazi war criminal.

North Wales police said last night that they had not been able to send detectives to France immediately after the arrest because the necessary documents had not arrived from the Crown Prosecution Service in London.

A spokesman for the CPS said last night: "Everything has been done to fit in with French requirements as quickly as possible." Normally the drafting of the document, known as a *Commission Rogatoire*, and its translation into French would take at least a week, but because of the urgency of the case it was being completed within 24 hours, the spokesman said.

This document introduces the officers to the French authorities and sets out what they want to do.

Police sources in Bourg-en-Bresse said last night that they had not attempted to question Mr Evans in any detail about Anna's disappearance but had given him the opportunity to make a statement.

"This is a job for the British police. We are not involved in

Continued on page 24, col 5

Clarke rejects new talks in nurses' grading dispute

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

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WIN £12,000

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

● With four people sharing yesterday's £4,000 daily prize (see page 3), the Portfolio Accumulator stands at £12,000. Prices: page 29

INSIDE

£100,000 for Stubbs 'mistake'

Mrs Penelope Luxmoore-May and her husband, Paul, from Dunsfold, Surrey, were awarded more than £100,000 in the High Court yesterday against a firm of auctioneers for its failure to exercise enough care in pricing two paintings later attributed to George Stubbs which fetched £90,000 at Sotheby's. Messenger May-Burverstock, of Godalming, Surrey, who valued the oils at between £30 to £50, may appeal. Page 3

Angola accord

South Africa yesterday accepted the timetable for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, drawn up at last week's Geneva talks. Page 24

Savings rise

Building societies received £1.58 billion from savers last month as interest rates rose, but new mortgage commitments stagnated at £3.59 billion. Page 25

Johnson ban

Ben Johnson, banned for drug-taking in Seoul, will have his reappearances in the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona opposed by the Canadian Government. Page 46

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Cathedral may lose Heritage grant

By Craig Seton

English Heritage is withholding a grant of up to £50,000 from Hereford Cathedral because of the decision of the Dean and Chapter to sell the medieval Mappa Mundi.

The heritage body yesterday said the auction of the 13th century map would almost certainly cost the cathedral up to £100,000 in grant aid.

It was withholding an initial £40,000 to £50,000 because the cathedral's financial position was likely to change fundamentally with the sale

next June. But the decision on the grant is also a signal from the heritage body, which receives 95 per cent of its funding from the Government, that it strongly disapproves of the auction of the medieval Mappa Mundi.

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Mr Oliver Pearcey, head of English Heritage's historic buildings division, yesterday said that with grant aid of 40 per cent the cathedral would have received about £100,000.

Mr George Hyde, chairman of Hereford's leasing committee, said a plan to raise a penny rate to help the cathedral could be damaged by the negotiations.

● An early day motion "deploring and opposing" the sale was tabled in the Commons last night by Mr Simon Hughes, Democrat MP for Southwark and Bermondsey.

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Armenia alarm at fresh Baku riots

Moscow (Reuters) - A session of the Armenian Parliament was abruptly broken off yesterday after deputies heard rumours of Armenian casualties in fresh ethnic violence in Azerbaijan, the Armenian news agency said.

A journalist at the Armenian press agency in Yerevan said the deputies returned to their constituencies after word of clashes between Armenians and Azerbaijanis in Baku, the Azerbaijan capital, and elsewhere in the republic.

According to the unconfirmed reports reaching Yerevan, police were guarding the homes of Armenians in Baku, the Armenian journalist said. There were also reports of Azerbaijanis attacking the minority-Armenian population in two villages in the Azerbaijan region of Nakhichevan, he added.

There was no confirmation of the attacks from Baku. But a spokesman for the

Azerbaijani news agency said several hundred thousand Azerbaijanis have been protesting for the past few days in Baku over an Armenian construction project in the disputed territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

The Azerbaijan protesters, staging a round-the-clock vigil for the past five days, say the Armenians are desecrating a national shrine by building in a forest near the territory's second city, Shusha.

Meanwhile, the Armenian Communist Party newspaper, *Kommunist*, said the Supreme Court in Moscow had sentenced to death an Azerbaijan youth for his role in the ethnic violence in the Azerbaijan city of Sumgait in February.

The youth, Akhmed Akhmedov, was one of three Azerbaijanis charged with organizing and taking part in seven murders during three days of anti-Armenian riots.

longer be seen as "a system of outdoor relief for the aristocracy".

The Trust had been an essential protection during the days of socialist austerity and penal levels of income and capital gains tax. "Britons like austerity. They find it painful to be told it is officially over."

Ridiculing those who claimed their families had lived in the same houses for generations, he said their ancestors had often bought, stolen or married into the house "at some point in their murky past when they were robber barons, property speculators or simply won the pools."

His own family had done this by marrying the heiress to a country seat in Northumberland. Nor did he believe modern millionaires were worse than

land seat. Having the houses lived in added to their interest and prevented them becoming state-owned "mausoleums", Mr Ridley argued.

"Aspic is all very well round quails. It is even bearable round salmon. But it will not do for a living heritage."

In characteristically forthright fashion he said the Government should only have a "long-stop" role in preserving stately homes. It should not be in the business of providing old families with "permanent guarantees" that they could live on forever in their ancestral homes.

Government help had to be better targeted. English Heritage had been asked to explore alternatives to traditional state ownership of these properties. The National Trust should no



Mr Ridley: Not in favour of help for stately homes.

EXECUTIVE
TRAVEL
MAGAZINE
OF THE
YEAR

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65 Peter Street, Manchester Tel: 061-434 443a.
85 Buchanan Street, Glasgow Tel: 041-221 0015.

NEWS ROUNDUP

£200m plan to revive old towns

A £200 million regeneration scheme for the former heavy woollen mill district of West Yorkshire was announced yesterday by a local authority and a construction company.

The "pound for pound" sharing venture between Kirklees Metropolitan Council, based in Huddersfield, and Henry Boot & Sons of Sheffield was described as a unique partnership and as a blueprint for economic and social regeneration into the 1990s.

The council and the builders have agreed a 10-year programme to create and improve homes and commercial, industrial, social and leisure facilities in Huddersfield, Dewsbury, Bailey and surrounding towns.

Mr John Harman, leader of Kirklees council, said the equal stakes made the partnership unique in the country. Up to 6,000 jobs could be created and all the profits would be used to finance other regeneration schemes.

Mr Alan Bamford, a director of Boots which, with a turnover of £180 million, is one of the country's leading construction companies, said the venture could herald a new breed of developer who would accept a lower profit margin in the interests of long-term community benefits.

TV proposals 'threat'

The Government's White Paper on broadcasting is likely to slow investment in television and not accelerate it, Coopers and Lybrand, the chartered accountants, said yesterday. In a study of the effect of government proposals on independent television, Coopers and Lybrand accused the White Paper of creating more uncertainty in the industry and said smaller independent television companies could be threatened and that some regions, such as Wales, could become unprofitable to operate. The cost of running their own transmitters would be particularly damaging to stations covering large rural areas.

'Pathetic' patronage

The chairman elect of the Arts Council, Mr Peter Palumbo, yesterday called the level of private patronage of the arts in Britain "pathetic". He told the Aldgate Business Houses Council that corporate arts patronage was now almost on a par with that of the United States. He said: "It is the individual in this country upon whom we must focus our attention. We have a few great individual patrons of the arts and while their names would appear on any roll call of honour they are pathetically few in number." Of those who have already made significant contributions, he cited the Sainsbury family, Vivien Duffield, Sir John and Peter Moores and Ernest Hall. "We need more such individuals of foresight and vision."

Homes sell-off fought

A pensioner was yesterday given permission to challenge in the High Court plans to privatise old people's homes in Bradford, West Yorkshire. Miss Jermina Wilson, aged 68, is to seek a judicial review of Bradford City Council's decision to sell 15 homes, including the one where she lives. The decision, part of a cost-cutting package, was carried in October on the casting vote of Mr Smith Midegley, the Conservative lord mayor. Miss Wilson, backed by Bradford Law Centre, says the mayor must use his casting vote impartially and not in a party political manner, to reserve the status quo. Lord Justice Lloyd, sitting with Mr Justice Auld, said there was an arguable case and granted her leave to seek a review. No date has been fixed for the full hearing.

Cocaine gang jailed

A drug smuggling gang which brought cocaine worth £2.6 million into Britain sandwiched among LP records were jailed at Isleworth Crown Court, west London, yesterday. Luis Alberto Restrepo Rozko, aged 29, was jailed for 16 years and four women "couriers" for 14 years each. They were Maria Gonzalez de Arango, aged 37, Libia Escobar de Ayala, aged 34, Maria Medina Loza, all Colombian, and Victoria Reyes-Alciade, aged 28, who claimed to be Spanish. The women, who had flown from Colombia, were arrested at Heathrow airport.

Nurses lured by work prospects abroad

By Emma Wilkins

It is only a year since Miss Tracey O'Mara started training as a student nurse at her local Somerset hospital. Already, she is considering leaving the profession in England to work abroad.

Miss O'Mara visited the National Nursing Exhibition at Olympia, west London, yesterday, where international nursing recruitment agencies vied to sign nurses for schemes abroad.

Miss O'Mara, aged 21, who works at the Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton, was tempted by the prospect of more money and freedom offered by AMS Healthcare, one of the newest agencies, which recruits nurses for Saudi Arabia and the United States and is to start recruiting for Australia.

Miss O'Mara said: "My long-term plan is to go to Australia. But I would

also be interested in going to America. The advantage of working through an agency is that they pay us better and treat us better. You get more respect from an agency."

As a student nurse in her second year, Miss O'Mara earns less than £2 an hour. If she joined AMS Healthcare, she would earn between £3.50 and £8.50 an hour for part-time shift work. She said: "Some of my friends have gone to work in Australia and they really enjoy it. The pay is better. So is the equipment. And nurses are treated better."

"There is so much dissatisfaction with the structure of nursing in this country that it is tempting to get away and work abroad. If I work for the agency, I will get more practical experience which is lacking from my training scheme in England." Hos-

pital administrators and senior nurses from US medical centres are attending the exhibition, the biggest nursing event in Europe this year.

Mr Kirby Smith, executive director of Southside Regional Medical Center, of Petersburg, Virginia, said he was hoping to recruit 12 British nurses. He said: "Your nurses are very well educated and they have a high success rate in passing the exams needed to work in America."

Mr Smith said more than 40 nurses had inquired, although he was offering only marginally more money. Staff nurses with one year of experience earn \$30,000 (£16,400) at Southside, not much more than in England. Auxiliary nurses earn up to \$21,000 (£11,500), a small increase.

In Arkansas, a staff nurse with one year of experience is paid \$25,000

(£13,800), which comes to about £11,000 after tax, compared with the top rate of £10,650 in England. In New York, nurses earn between \$32,000-\$34,000 (£17,500-£18,700). However, the cost of living, including accommodation, is much higher.

Saudi Arabian recruitment agencies offer staff nurses in Riyadh about £12,000 a year tax free. Accommodation and transport are free. Some agencies offer a free return flight to nurses who renew their contracts.

A Royal College of Nursing survey found that 3 per cent of nurses left each year to work abroad. Although the main motive was the relatively high salaries abroad, the opportunity to travel and work in new places was of primary importance. However, many said they only intended to be away for a year before returning.

Marine is linked to accidental gun death

By Howard Foster

A serving colour sergeant in the Royal Marines is believed to have accidentally fired the shot that killed a man on a firearms course in Essex at the weekend.

Mr Derry Campbell, aged 35, from Yeovil in Somerset, died during a mock battle in which trainees pretended to protect VIPs from a terrorist attack. The Smith & Wesson revolver issued to the 13 participants were supposed to have been loaded with harmless rubber wadding. However, a live round was in the barrel of one gun.

Mr Campbell, playing the part of a bodyguard, was shot in the stomach and bled to death in a room specially built for anti-terrorist training in a hangar at Great Saling airfield near Braintree.

Essex Police said last night that "on the balance of probability", the weapon that killed him was fired by Colour Sergeant Michael John Blackburn, an instructor in the Royal Marines based at Lympstone in Devon, where Prince Edward trained in 1986. Charges are unlikely to be brought.

The Ministry of Defence confirmed yesterday that Sergeant Blackburn attended the weapons training course while off duty and that the incident was a police matter.

Meanwhile, police are investigating the activities of the organization that arranged for the 13 men to be sent on the £200 weekend course. It was named as the Interact group, based in Dublin. Detectives believe that it may act as an agency for training bodyguards to protect VIP clients.

The Times established yesterday that a man named by police as being involved with Interact, Mr Brian McCarthy, is a manager with Brinks Mat Ltd, the security firm, in Dublin.

Mr John McCarthy, general manager of Brinks Mat UK, said yesterday that the firm was embarrassed by the linking of Brinks Mat and Interact, which are otherwise totally unconnected.

"As we understood it, Interact is merely a martial arts club with which Mr McCarthy has connections. We shall be speaking to him about this," Mr McCarthy said.

Mr McCarthy told The Times last night that he was a member of the Interact group, a Europe-wide body comprising people who were interested in outdoor activities from canoeing to firearms training. He strenuously denied that it supplied bodyguards for VIPs.

Police need not attend IRA inquest, court rules

By Jamie Dettmer, Irish Affairs Correspondent

The three police officers who shot dead three unarmed IRA men six years ago are within their rights to decline to testify in person at the inquest into the incident, and their sworn statements can be admitted as evidence, a High Court judge in Belfast ruled yesterday.

Mr Justice Carswell rejected an application by the family of Gervaise McKerr, one of the IRA men, for a judicial review of the coroner's decision to allow the officers to submit their statements to the inquest at Craigavon, Co Armagh.

He said that not to admit the statements would give the jury "an inaccurate and perhaps distorted account" and the coroner was within his rights to accept them.

Lawyers for the McKerr family indicated last night that they would be appealing.

Mr Justice Carswell also rejected the McKerr family's argument that the handling of the case by the coroner, Mr James Elliott, had prejudiced the hearing. He saw no reason for a fresh inquest into the deaths of Gervaise McKerr, Eugene Toman and Sean Burns in November, 1982.

However, Mr Justice Carswell ruled that the coroner was wrong not to adjourn the inquest last week when lawyers for Mrs Eleanor

McKerr were absent from the hearing preparing for the High Court action.

In his judgement, Mr Justice Carswell accepted the claim by the coroner's counsel that the three officers could still face murder charges on two of the killings.

The three officers were acquitted in 1984 of murdering Eugene Toman but were not charged in connection with the deaths of Burns or McKerr.

● Lance Corporal Michael Robbins, aged 23, of Liphook, Hampshire, who died in the IRA bomb blast at the Mill Hill Barracks, north London, on August 1, was unlawfully killed, a coroner recorded yesterday.

● A man appeared in a Dublin court yesterday accused of escaping from Belfast's Crumlin Road jail seven years ago. Gerard Michael Sloan, aged 35, of Belfast, was remanded in custody by the panel of three judges at the anti-terrorist Special Criminal Court. His trial date was fixed for January 31.

● Dutch police began inquiries in the border town of Geleen yesterday in search of more information on two IRA suspects, Gerard Hanratty and Terence McGeogh, both aged 29, held in connection with attacks on British soldiers.

Princess Royal in Ulster



The Princess Royal being presented with flowers yesterday morning by Emeffa Amokun, aged 13, during her visit to Lagan College, on the outskirts of Belfast, Ulster's first fully-integrated secondary school. Looking on (left) is Mr Terence Flanagan, the headmaster.

The Princess Royal made a surprise one-day visit to Northern Ireland yesterday, including a trip to Belfast, where there was a bomb incident.

While she was in the city a bomb was found under a policeman's car outside the Royal Ulster Constabulary station in Queen Street. The area was closed and an army team defused the device.

The princess was accompanied by Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who spent the day with her instead of attending the state opening of Parliament in London.

The princess did not meet members of the security forces, but briefly she did see Lieutenant-General Sir John Waters, Army GOC, and Sir John Hermon, Chief Constable of the RUC.

She began her busy day by opening the Flying Angel Club, a new mission for seamen in Belfast's dockland. When she was in the city last December, launching a £350,000 appeal for funds for the mission, she pledged to return to open it.

The princess then flew across Belfast to the new site of Lagan College - Ulster's first fully-integrated second-

ary school - on the southern outskirts of Belfast. There she met teachers and pupils and received a cheque for the Save the Children Fund, of which she is president.

The princess went on to the House of Sport in the Malone Road area of south Belfast to launch a fund for the Ulster Sport and Recreation Trust and, during lunch, met local members of the Save the Children Fund.

Her visit ended with a visit to a stud farm near Newtownards, Co Down, where she met members of the Riding for the Disabled Association and watched a gymnastics.

Sixth-form survey

Pupils confused about degree courses

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

Universities, polytechnics and colleges are failing to provide sixth-formers with enough information to enable them to make sensible degree choices, a survey shows.

The survey of 2,044 first-year sixth-formers at 197 schools, conducted by the Polytechnics Central Admissions System and the Higher Education Information Services Trust, is certain to cause a dispute when it is published tomorrow. A con-

ference of higher education groups in London will be told that three out of five sixth-formers believe they do not know enough about higher education to choose which subject to study.

That is in spite of the efforts made by higher education institutions in recent years to ensure that pupils are aware of what they have to offer.

The study found that while almost half of the six-formers questioned knew how many

universities there were in Britain, only 13 per cent knew the number of polytechnics and a tiny fraction were aware of how many colleges offered degrees.

Comprehensive school pupils knew more about higher education, with 53 per cent able to answer questions about degree courses compared with 51.9 per cent of independent school pupils, 51.8 per cent of pupils in sixth-form colleges and 48.7 per cent of sixth-

formers at grammar schools.

● A national campaign to attract people from commerce and industry into teaching began yesterday with the launch of four-day taster courses at Trent Polytechnic in Northampton.

● Members of the Association of University Teachers are to be balloted on whether they will boycott examinations in support of a pay claim. The result will be announced in January.

Labour softens stand on job training boycott

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

The Labour Party will today advise Labour-controlled councils to take legal advice before boycotting the Government's £1.5 billion Employment Training programme.

The High Court ruled last month that Liverpool City Council's boycott of the scheme was illegal.

Labour's national executive committee is also likely to suggest that councillors take advantage of a rule which allows some unemployed people to draw benefit while training as long as they are prepared to drop the course if a suitable job arises.

The TUC General Council meets today to end its outright

opposition to the programme, effectively overturning a vote at September's Trades Union Congress instructing it to withdraw support for and not co-operate with Employment Training.

Today the general council is expected to urge unions to negotiate improvements in the scheme rather than invite government taunts that they have turned their backs on unemployed people.

The TUC's opposition had prompted Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, to abolish the Training Commission, ending the unions' involvement in a scheme they did not support.

England fifth in chess

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

England have moved up to fifth equal position on 20½ points after crushing Switzerland 3½-½ in round eight of the World Chess Olympiad at Salónica in Northern Greece.

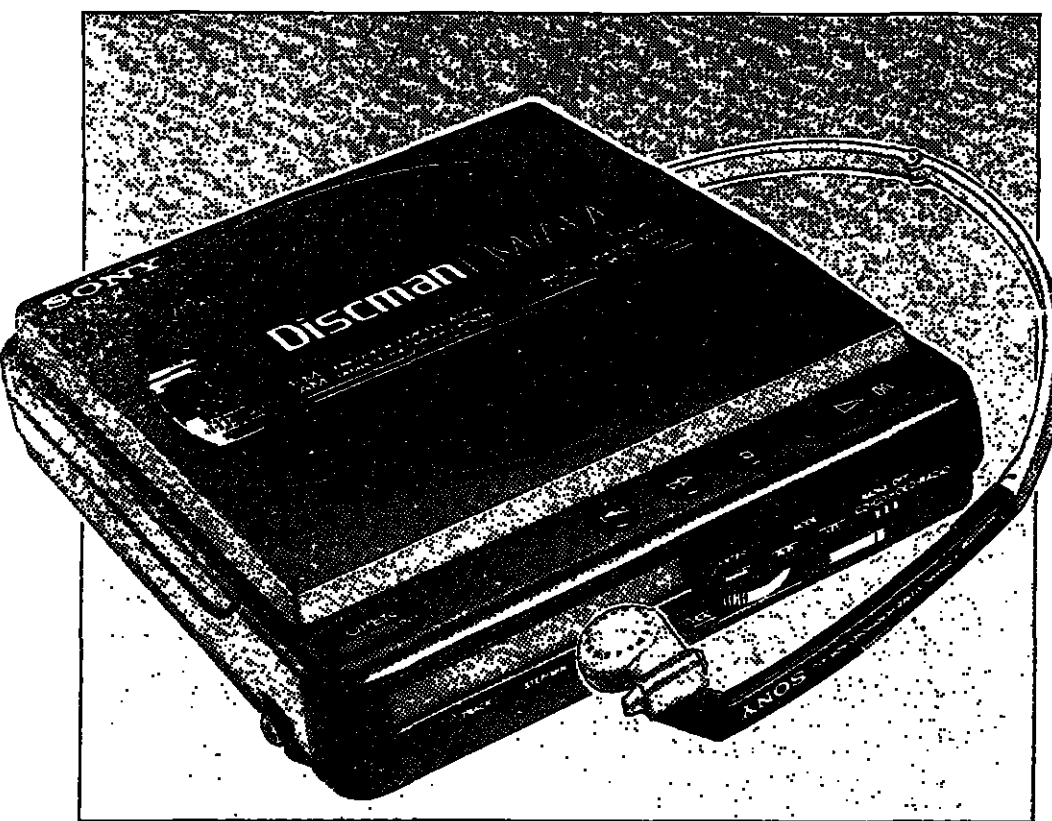
England were led to victory by Nigel Short who, playing white, defeated Viktor Korchnoi in a 67-move game. On board two, Jon Speelman could only draw but on board three, John Nunn won his game, as did William Watson on the fourth board.

England now share fifth place with Denmark, Hungary, The Netherlands and the Philippines with six rounds

left. The adjourned game from the seventh round between England and India was drawn, England losing 1½-2½.

After the eighth round, the Soviet Union increased their lead to a margin of three points after defeating Yugoslavia by 2½-1½ to move to 24½ points out of a possible 32.

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Art world concern after ruling in breach of contract case

Couple wins £100,000 over Stubbs valuation

By Andrew Morgan

A couple were awarded more than £100,000 damages in the High Court yesterday after a ruling that a firm of auctioneers failed to exercise sufficient care in valuing two foxhound oil paintings at between £30 to £50 which were later attributed to George Stubbs and sold for £90,000 at Sotheby's.

Mrs Penelope Luxmoore-May and her husband, Paul, gave the paintings, each measuring 8½ ins by 5½ ins, to the firm of Messrs May & Baverstock, in Godalming, where they were sold for £840 at auction in September, 1985. The following March they were bought at Sotheby's by Spink's, the art dealers, who later sold them for considerably more to Mr Paul Mellon, the American businessman. They now hang in his collection in Virginia.

The damages were assessed as the difference between the price realised at Sotheby's and the £840 at auction, minus costs such as expert advice and cleaning. Interest was added at 15 per cent per annum since the writ was served and costs of £20,000 were awarded to the couple.

Messrs May Baverstock — now owned by Hampton Fine Art — said last night it was studying the judgement, which finds them in breach of contract. It has 28 days to appeal and a stay of execution was ordered until a decision is made.

Mr Justice Simon Brown said that he was far from concluding that every auctioneer who missed a "sleeper" — an piece of art with a high market value —

would be necessarily regarded as negligent and each case would depend on individual facts.

However, the art world was last night predicting that dating paintings would become far more general in catalogues and insurance premiums for negligence in both international and small-scale auction houses would rise dramatically.

Mrs Luxmoore-May, aged 69, decided to sell the paintings, a wedding present from 1948, because they were dirty and she disliked them. However, after the judgement she said that she would now like them hanging in her home at Dunsfold, Surrey, rather than receive damages.

Although there have been conflicts of opinion as to whether the oils are actually by Stubbs, the judge said that Sotheby's had "justifiably" reached their own decision and catalogued the oils with full attribution.

He said: "Although it was perhaps a bold decision to attribute in the language of certainty rather than probability, I am satisfied that it was not improper."

The court had been told that Mrs Sheila Zarek, an assistant with Messrs May Baverstock, had taken the two oils to the front counter at Christie's, in King Street, London, where she said they were examined for up to ten minutes. She was told they were of little value.

The judge said he was not making a judgement on whether or not the oils were by Stubbs. The error of Messrs May Baverstock was not in failing to make a positive Stubbs attribution,

but their failure to spot the "potential" in the paintings.

He said: "What more absurd than for me needlessly to offer my inexpert view upon the correctness or otherwise of the opinion of the acknowledged world expert. Sometimes, the court is driven into such a position but not here."

"Had it not been for the defendant's breach of contract, the plaintiffs would have discovered the true potential of these pictures and sold them properly, as likely as not at Sotheby's."

The judge acquitted Sotheby's of any impropriety in giving a full attribution to Stubbs in their sale catalogue of March, 1986, when they knew that Mrs Judy Egerton, regarded as the world's leading expert on Stubbs, was not convinced of their authenticity.

He believed that Mrs Egerton's views had hardened down the years and they had taken enough steps to confirm their own view.

He dismissed Messrs May Baverstock's claim that the Sotheby's sale price was tainted by unqualified attribution and a misleading catalogue entry. "I am not persuaded that the sale price was in the event affected by Sotheby's attribution and

description. The best evidence to the contrary is that Spink's, the purchasers, knew her views anyway."

The judge accepted "not without hesitation" that Mrs Zarek had taken the oils to Christie's but the paintings were seen only fleetingly and not by anyone with real expertise.

The judge rejected the defendant's argument that the "most expert evidence" claimed the oils were probably not genuine and, therefore, they could not be negligent in failing to recognise them as such.

He said its central fallacy was in the supposition that it was for the court — rather than the international art market — to decide the authenticity and value of the foxhounds.

"More particularly, the argument fails to recognise that the paintings' true speculative value could not hope to be realised until such time as the art world's buyers and experts were alerted to their possibilities and given the opportunity to reach their own conclusions upon them. They should have been."

"Whatever history may ultimately decide about their authenticity, there can be no question but that the defendants took the wrong view of them." He also rejected the argument that the Sotheby's sale price should be ignored and the value determined "objectively".

The initial valuation at Messrs May Baverstock was done by Mr Paul Thomas, a consultant valuer, who said his skills were acquired by "trial and error".



Wave of success: Mrs Penelope Luxmoore-May and her husband after the High Court hearing yesterday and the two paintings, now attributed to Stubbs, at the heart of the case

The doorway to 'a win on the football pools' — sometimes

By Andrew Morgan

The front counter at Christie's, in London, is the land of eternal hope where dealers and the public bring in antiques, coconed in brown paper, string and plastic in the hope of making a killing.

On a busy day, some 200 people are dealt with at the counter and it was here that Mrs Sheila Zarek, from Messrs May Baverstock, said during the court hearing that she brought three oils in 1985. After ten minutes, Christie's allegedly attributed one to Martin Sharp but said that two foxhounds were of little value. Christie's have no record of the occasion.

This week, many people extracted faded paintings from plastic bags only to be told by experts "from upstairs" that their value was slight. Others, like Mr Peter Jackson, an art dealer from London, emerged in boisterous mood after confirma-

tion that their purchase was shrewd.

Mr Jackson bought a painting, thought to be 17th century Italian, a week ago in Sussex for £3,000 and the auction house's experts have valued it at up to £8,000. "It would take ten lifetimes to become a complete expert but Christie's are an honest and diligent lot," he said.

If in doubt, Christie's say they keep items for research. On occasions around the world, some have been valued lowly and then command big prices elsewhere. Harriet Drummond, a specialist in water colours, says that "mistakes" — often a different appraisal from another auction house — are usually only heard about from newspaper reports.

"In some cases, it just boils down to opinion against opinion, I suppose. People may bring in an item on which they have done two years research

and then accuse us of being foolish if we miss it. That is slightly unfair."

Miss Drummond had just seen a faded painting by David Cox and consulted colleagues who priced it at £1,500 to £2,000, bringing delight to its owner. "I suppose sometimes it is a bit like being a woman from the 'football pools company'."

In one "fish-bowl" — an open office — Mrs Ann Griffin, from Plumstead, south London, was told that her oil on porcelain Madonna and Child could fetch up to £500, despite having bought it for just £10 at a car boot sale in Sidcup, Kent.

Such delight, though, was not ubiquitous. One man, also on his visit to the front counter, had hoped to make a profit on a Victorian painting he had bought in Berkhamstead, in Hertfordshire, for £125. Sadly his "sleeper" was valued at only £150 and he withdrew, defeated but wiser.

European air traffic unit will cut delays

By Harvey Elliott
Air Correspondent

A European air traffic control centre is to be developed to co-ordinate the flow of aircraft and help to prevent a repeat of last summer's delays.

A meeting of the Permanent Commission of Eurocontrol yesterday unanimously backed the plan aimed at maximizing the efficient use of the overcrowded airways.

The central control unit, which has been strongly backed by Britain, will be based in either Frankfurt or Brussels, staffed by controllers from throughout Europe and should be operational by the early 1990s.

Lord Brabazon of Tara, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Transport, who has been chairman of the permanent commission for the past year and largely responsible for pushing the rest of Europe into accepting the need for such a unit, said yesterday: "At last there is general political will to do something".

The commission also agreed to a package of 15 short-term measures to try and alleviate the worst of the problems as soon as possible.

The measures are based on improving communications between air traffic control centres and trying to predict where hold-ups may occur.

Europe has 18 civilian air traffic control systems plus 20 military control systems, as well as Eurocontrol. To fly from Heathrow to Munich, for example, an aircraft has to pass through 13 separate air traffic control systems.

Eurocontrol was set up in 1963 with the aim of providing Europe-wide air traffic control facilities. But international rivalries, nationalism and a refusal by many member states to accept there was a problem left it as little more than a research establishment responsible for providing only limited air traffic control services for high altitude aircraft.

Portfolio PLUS Accumulator

Four winners share the Portfolio prize of £4,000. They are: Mrs Joan Downer, of Carston Grove, Reading, Berkshire; Miss Nancy King, of Wallingford Road, Goring, near Reading; Mr Mark Killegrey, of Beaconsfield Road, Walthamstow, east London, and Mr J J Moffat, of St Mary's Road, Mortimer, Berkshire.

Waking up to the 'sleeper' factor

Last night the art world predicted that auctioneers could face increased problems after yesterday's judgement, even though Mr Justice Simon Brown said that any future case should be decided on its merits.

Mr Robert Gowland, chairman of the Society of Fine Art Auctioneers and a director of Phillips in Chester, said: "We are all going to have to look extremely carefully at what the judgement says. Certainly, it could put an intolerable burden on competent and conscientious auctioneers if they felt that every single piece which might turn out to be valuable had to go to a leading expert."

Christie's refused to comment until they had a chance to read the judgement in full.

It is thought that salerooms, from

humble houses in the shires to international auctioneers, will take action to ensure the chances of litigation are reduced. One expert predicted that Sotheby's and Christie's in Britain would follow the practice in the United States and become more general in fine art dating.

Increased insurance against litigation for negligence is also likely. One dealer said: "Nobody is going to risk dating paintings precisely and the public will not be helped by the auctioneers covering their backs."

The Incorporated Society of Valuers and Auctioneers doubts that litigation will increase, although insurance could. "An auction house can only try to behave reasonably and we think Messengers did that," said a spokesman.

Attributing paintings can be highly subjective, as this case proved, and dealers enjoy recalling how a painting valued at a low price at Sotheby's or Christie's can be valued at a huge sum at the other house. One dealer said: "It happens all the time. It depends on who comes to the counter, who is in and if they are prepared to stick their neck out. This ruling could affect them deeply."

As the art market involves so much money, auctioneers are often the subject of complaint, either on account of their "commercial optimism" (when they fully attribute a work without full evidence) or for failing to spot "sleepers".

Only rarely do cases actually come to court, because big auctioneers prefer to compensate privately to avoid publicity.

Newsboy murder appeals

Crown evidence at trial 'was rubbish'

By Michael Horsnell

The Crown case at the trial of the three men convicted in 1979 of murdering Carl Bridgewater, the newspaper boy, was rubbish, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Mr Benet Hytner, QC, said: "We say the bulk of the evidence against these men was such rubbish that the judge himself was constrained to repeatedly warn the jury not to accept it or only to accept it if it could be corroborated."

He said Mr Justice Drake, who presided over the trial, had disparaged many of the points put forward by the Crown.

Mr Hytner, continuing his

opening address in the appeal against conviction by the three men serving sentences for the murder, said the real killer was a former ambulance man, Hubert Spencer.

He was later convicted of shooting dead Mr Hubert Wilkes who lived next door to Yew Tree Farm, Worsley, West Midlands, where Carl was shot in 1979 when he stumbled across a robbery. Spencer had been signing with Mr Wilkes over Carl's death, which happened a month earlier.

Mr Hytner said: "It is a matter giving rise to the suspicion that Spencer went

into a frenzy because he was concerned that, having killed Carl Bridgewater, someone was raising this matter again.

The killing followed a conversation between Spencer and Mr Wilkes's daughter Jean about Carl's shooting.

Mr Hytner said the court which heard the original appeal applications, that were rejected, was not aware of Spencer's conversation with Jean Wilkes.

James Robinson, aged 54, and Vincent Hickey, aged 34, were sentenced at Stafford Crown Court, to life imprisonment in 1979 with a recom-

mendation that they serve 25 years.

Michael Hickey, aged 26, was ordered to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure as he was then aged 17. He has since been transferred to Park Lane special hospital, Liverpool.

A fourth man, Patrick Molloy, then aged 51, who received a 12-year sentence for manslaughter, died in prison.

The appeals, which were ordered by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, are being heard by Lord Justice Russell, Mr Justice Leonard and Mr Justice Potts. The hearing continues today.

Man shoots wife then kills himself in street

A man chased his wife out of their home and shot her dead in the street. Then he killed himself with the same shotgun.

Their three children fled in their nightclothes to neighbours after the shootings at Bracklesham Bay, West Sussex.

Shortly before midnight on Monday, Mrs Yvonne Griffin, aged 36, ran from her home pursued by her husband, Paul, also 36, brandishing a gun.

Neighbours in Silver Way raised the alarm after the Griffins' three children, two teenagers and a daughter aged 10, ran next door.

Police arrived to find the

two bodies lying in the road. Mrs Griffin worked as a dentist's assistant at a surgery in East Wittering and her husband was a self-employed car bodywork repairer. He was also interested in flying microlight aircraft and photography.

Police said yesterday that no-one else is being sought in connection with the shootings. The children's grandparents travelled overnight from their home in Surrey to look after the children.

A neighbour said: "They were a very nice family and always seemed pleasant. It's a total shock. No one can believe it has happened."

NFC employees set for £250,000 windfalls

By David Cross

Several hundred employees of the National Freight Consortium who bought shares in the company when it was sold by the Government six years ago could earn £250,000 by early next year.

The company said yesterday that when the consortium's shares were floated on the Stock Exchange in the new year it was possible that employees, including lorry drivers, warehousemen and secretaries, who held on to their shares would be among those who stood to earn £250,000 or more.

The shares, which were

offered for £1 when the distribution, storage and travel group — best known for its Pickfords and BRS lorry fleets — was sold for £53 million, are worth more than 70 times their original value.

Shares bought in 1982 for £15,000 would return more than £1 million if the flotation price was 200p. They are now worth about 185p.

The average shareholder invested £700, an outlay now worth about £50,000. About 42,000 employees, their relatives, former employees and pensioners own more than 80 per cent of NFC.

"Slippery and hazardous", the court was told. Mr Patrick Hamlin, for the defence, said immediate steps were taken to ensure that the kitchens were cleaned up and an independent hygiene and safety consultant was brought in.

Improvements costing £93,000 were made to the kitchens, even though the hotel will close next month until 1990 for renovation.

He added: "The senior managers put forward their sincere regrets", and said: "Plainly they have tried to rectify matters as soon as possible and indeed they have." Two other charges relating to the Food Act were dropped and no evidence offered.

Kitchen dirt fine for Dorchester hotel

The Dorchester hotel, which is owned by the Sultan of Brunei, was fined £6,500 yesterday after the kitchens were found to be a "haven for cockroaches".

The hotel, in Park Lane, central London, admitted 17 offences under the Food Act and another under the Health and Safety at Work Act. The hearing was at Bow Street magistrates' court, central London.

Mr Geoffrey Wicks, the magistrate, ordered the company to pay costs of £1,639.

Earlier the court was told that Westminster council environmental health officers inspected the kitchens on March 4 this year after giving the management

five days' notice. Mr Geoffrey Stephenson, for the prosecution, said: "There were many defects found in the kitchen area as a whole."

The ceiling and walls were covered in "foculent dust which had gathered on grease spots; kitchen gullies were full of grime and food debris, an extractor was badly corroded and floor tiles and brickwork chipped, cracked and pitted."

A large infestation of cockroaches was found under a staff chest refrigerator. In the larder room, used for storing raw meat and fish, a handbasin was stained and dirty.

The main kitchen area had a dirty tiled floor covered in water which was

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BRITISH MIDLAND

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THE QUEEN'S SPEECH

The Queen outlines busy legislation programme

In her speech at the opening of Parliament, the Queen said:

I look forward with much pleasure to a visit by Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of The Netherlands as part of the celebrations of the William and Mary Tercentenary.

I also look forward to visiting Barbados next March to mark the 350th anniversary of the House of Assembly there and to the present next autumn on the occasion of the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Malaysia.

My Government will continue to attach the highest priority to the maintenance of national security and the preservation of peace with freedom and justice. They will maintain strong and effective defences and will stand fully by their obligations to the Nato alliance.

My Government will strive for balanced and verifiable measures of arms control and for a worldwide ban on chemical weapons. They strongly support the United States' proposals for 50 per cent reductions in American and Soviet strategic nuclear weapons. They will work for the elimination of disparities in conventional forces in

Europe with the aim of achieving a stable balance at lower levels.

My Government will continue to strive to break down the barriers between East and West and to ensure that the Vienna Review Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe leads to further progress on human rights. They look forward to building further on the improved relationship with the Soviet Union and to a visit to this country by the Soviet leader, President Gorbachev.

My Government look forward to the completion of the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan and will continue to work for the restoration of that country's independence and non-aligned status. They will continue to play a full part in the work of the United Nations and to work for peaceful solutions to regional conflicts.

My Government will continue to work with our European Community partners to complete the single market, to reinforce budgetary discipline and further to reform the common agricultural policy. They will play a full part in multilateral negotiations designed to liberalize international trade and agriculture.

My Government will maintain a substantial aid programme, designed to alleviate poverty and to promote sustainable economic and social progress in developing countries.

My Government will continue the fight against international terrorism and against trafficking in drugs.

My Government will honour their commitments to the people of the Falkland Islands while continuing to seek more normal relations with Argentina. They will continue to discharge their responsibilities towards Hong Kong and its people and will work closely with the Chinese Government to implement the Sino-British joint declaration.

Members of the House of Commons, estimates for the public service will be laid before you.

My Lords and members of the House of Commons, my Government will continue to pursue firm financial policies designed to bear down on inflation. They will continue to promote enterprise and to foster the conditions necessary for the sustained growth of output and employment. They will maintain firm control of public

expenditure so that, while allowing further improvements in priority services, it continues to fall as a proportion of national income, thus providing scope for further reductions in taxation, as and when prudent.

A Bill will be brought forward to reform the law on local government capital and housing finance, on home improvement grants, and on the conduct of local authority business.

My Government will continue to attach very great importance to protecting our environment, both nationally and internationally.

A Bill will be introduced for England and Wales to establish a National Rivers Authority and to provide for the sale of the utility functions of the water authorities.

Legislation will be introduced to restructure and to provide for the sale of the electricity supply industry in Great Britain.

A Bill will be introduced to remove unnecessary obstacles to employment, particularly in relation to women and young people, and to alter training arrangements.

My Government will vigorously pursue their policies for reducing crime. A Bill will

be introduced to replace the Prevention of Terrorism (Temporary Provisions) Act. Legislation will be brought forward to provide for a national membership scheme to control admission to football matches.

A Bill will be introduced to replace Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act, 1911, with provisions prohibiting only disclosure of information which would be harmful to the public interest.

A Bill will be introduced to put the Security Service on a statutory basis under the authority of the Secretary of State.

A Bill will be introduced to improve and rationalize the law governing the care and protection of children.

My Government will continue to take action to raise standards throughout education.

My Government are committed to strengthening the National Health Service and to ensuring that it is developed and improved in an efficient way that offers choice to patients.

For Scotland, legislation will be brought forward to enable parents to choose that their children's schools should be managed

outside the control of local authorities. A Bill will be introduced to transfer the Scottish Bus Group to the private sector.

In Northern Ireland, my Government will continue their efforts to eradicate terrorism, to give elected representatives greater involvement in the affairs of the province, and to maintain close co-operation with the Republic of Ireland. A Bill will be laid before you to strengthen the law of Northern Ireland on fair employment. Legislation will be introduced to extend the franchise for local elections and to require from candidates a declaration against terrorism.

A Bill will be brought forward to amend the law on social security.

Legislation will be introduced to reform company law and the law on mergers.

A Bill will be brought forward to modify the driver licensing system and to provide for new systems of route guidance for drivers.

Other measures will be laid before you.

My Lords and members of the House of Commons, I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may rest upon your counsels.

Kinnock demands answers on help for pensioners

Mr Neil Kinnock asked for a clear statement in the debate on the Queen's Speech from the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Prime Minister about the help the Chancellor intended to give pensioners.

The Leader of the Opposition said he was sure that Neil Lawson intended to help pensioners, but he wanted to make sure that the Government accepted "the reality" that up to six million of the oldest citizens were living in or near poverty.

Mr Kinnock said that he hoped that during the debate the Chancellor would answer questions about what help he was going to give to the oldest people in this country because he was sure that that was what he had in mind. If he was going to help the oldest pensioners, would he tell the House why he had felt it necessary to educate his backbenchers to give him support?

"What we want to know is whether the Government's undertaking towards pensioners' benefits are guided by the reality that there are three million retired people in this country who are in poverty officially and another three million who are very near poverty."

Was that going to be the reality which guided the Government, or was its intention going to be guided by the unfounded and unsustainable assumption that only a tiny minority of pensioners had difficulty in making ends meet?

"We want an answer to that from the Chancellor. We also want an answer to it from the First Lord of the Treasury (Mrs Thatcher)."

"I have asked the Prime Minister three times. Does she agree with the Chancellor's view expressed to the lobby? Thrice she has denied him."

Mr Kinnock said: Mortgage rates had risen, price rises had been imposed to fatten the electricity industry for privatization, and transport charges had risen.

"These price rises across that wide spectrum are all supposed to be firm financial policies designed to bear down on inflation. They do not bear down on inflation, they bear up inflation."

Use of this single weapon would have another result. As the Chancellor had admitted in his autumn statement, the effect of using interest rate rises as the sole instrument for controlling inflation was to put more heavily on investment than on consumption.

The result was that, even if

the Chancellor were to get the soft landing he hoped for, in its wake would be left an economy under-trained, under-financed and under-invested, an economy that had lost market share and its competitiveness.

The Prime Minister had rightly said that the health of the economy and the health of the environment were totally dependent one on the other.

It could reasonably have been expected that the Queen's Speech would have proposed new legislation, new regulation and new investment to face up to that great challenge.

"But it contained only one vacuous statement that 'the Government will continue to attach very great importance to protecting our environment both nationally and internationally'."

Today the debate will centre on home affairs, under the title, Freedom, fairness and opportunity. Tomorrow: Social security and employment. Friday: Foreign affairs and defence. Monday: Environment and industry. Tuesday: Economy.

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attach very great importance to protecting our environment both nationally and internationally."

Was it protecting that environment when research into the ozone layer, climatic changes, carbon dioxide emissions and energy efficiency were cut back and insufficiently financed?

When Britain had the dirtiest beaches in Europe, when 11 million people in this country were obliged to drink sub-standard water?

When the Government had no strategy for managing the increasing quantities of toxic, hazardous and chemical waste?

When The Lancet could report an uncontrolled outbreak of salmonella food poisoning when visits by environmental health officers were reduced because of local government cutbacks; when senior pollution inspectors resigned because of a lack of commitment from the Government?

When there were no serious proposals from the Government for conserving and reducing the use of energy, widely understood to be the single most effective policy for reducing the greenhouse effect; how could the nation believe the Govern-

ment was going to continue to protect the environment?

The Government should embrace the "green gauntlet" challenge thrown down by the environmentalist groups and introduce policies set out in that consensus document.

The privatization of a natural resource such as water and a vital service such as electricity would have no justification in commonsense. There is no reason of public service or consumer interest that could justify these self-offs. There is no industrial or strategic or economic logic to the self-offs."

The decision to cut neighbourhood policing, transport policing and crime prevention, and to close some police stations and cut the opening hours of others in Northern Ireland would be "the cause of objection and reconsideration from all parts of the law-abiding community in Northern Ireland and elsewhere."

On Sunday, the Minister of State for Northern Ireland had said of the RUC that "we did not choose the priorities: it was the Chief Constable."

Mr Kinnock said: That was one of the most disingenuous and disgraceful statements made by any minister.

But that attempt by the minister to avoid blame was only "the latest edition" in a long list of such evasions.

The same evasion had been seen in the nursing dispute, with health ministers encouraging health managers to take their own nurses to court. Loyal nurses were angry and dismayed at the way they were being treated. They felt bitterness and resentment.

The Prime Minister had said last week that "we do sometimes have to sacrifice a little of the freedom that we cherish" to defend the greater freedoms. So freedom was not a matter of absolutes but a matter of balance. In this country people of all parties and those of no party now considered that that balance was shifting; that the Government was controlling and regulating.

Mr Kinnock concluded: We shall resist these shifts against the rights of the subject and many other Acts which come from this Government. We shall resist with reason and argument. As we resist, I put it to members opposite in the words of Edmund Burke that "all that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that the good people do nothing."

I appeal to good people in all parts of the House to join us in stopping this shift to centralization, to control, to censorship.



"There is a price for environmental improvement and it is a good price to pay."

'Let Ingham read Speech'

The leaking of large parts of the Queen's Speech to newspapers over the past fortnight was deplored by Mr Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Democrats, when he spoke in the debate after the Prime Minister. He said that the Government had treated Parliament with contempt.

It had asked her Majesty to turn up here to read the Queen's Speech which had been extensively leaked in outline and in detail.

If the Government was to maintain this deplorable practice it could give the Queen the trouble next year and simply get Mr Bernard Ingham (Mrs Thatcher's chief press secretary) to make the speech.

Suddenly the Prime Minister seemed to lack an enemy and he had thought for one moment that those who polluted and despoiled the environment were to become her new enemy.

"But I can find nothing in the Queen's Speech which fulfils that original promise. I find

nothing that shows that Mrs Thatcher takes this very real threat to our future at all seriously."

Why did the passage in the Queen's Speech on defence and East-West relations use the same old rhetoric of past years as though nothing had happened?

The whole world has changed. Everything is different except the attitude of this Government which remains, as ever, frozen in the bleak rhetoric of the Cold War."

The Democrats would oppose the privatization of water. It was a foolish policy which would result in the consumer losing out in charges rising, probably massively. It was the first fruit of the curious new phrase, "bearing down on inflation."

They would also oppose the Government's plans for electricity which would not lead to a real improvement in competition.

The real question was, not who owned what, but how was

the consumer served, how was competition improved and how was the public interest best protected?

It had become the Prime Minister to lecture the world about freedom when she headed a Government so careless with our liberties. Further proposals on the Official Secrets Act would result not in more freedom of information, but in further restrictions, tighter controls and more sanctions in the hands of the Government.

While he supported the Prevention of Terrorism Act as a temporary measure for Northern Ireland, the Democrats would oppose its creation as a permanent feature of the legal system. They did not accept the defeatist attitude of the Government that terrorism must be a permanent state of affairs in Britain.

The Government claimed to be radical, yet it had failed to produce a single coherent idea on what should be done to meet the challenge of the next decade.

GPs to 'buy' hospital care for their patients

By Jill Sherman
Social Services
Correspondent

A commitment to strengthening and developing the health service was underlined in the Queen's Speech.

Although no health service legislation was proposed for this session, the speech alluded to the NHS review which is expected to result in a White Paper next year.

"My Government is committed to strengthening the National Health Service and to ensuring that it is developed and improved in an efficient way that offers choice to the patient," it said.

The White Paper, which is now being drawn up, is expected to propose several pilot studies to test many of the ideas for

HEALTH

reform that have been presented to the ministerial review team since it was formed early this year.

One of the central ideas - which has strong backing from Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health - is a scheme to allow family doctors to hold budgets to "buy" hospital care for their patients.

Mr Clarke claims that allowing GPs to influence where the money was spent would lead to greater efficiency since the most efficient hospitals would be rewarded with extra resources, as the money followed the patient through the system.

The GPs would have an incentive to refer to the most cost-effective services as they would be able to keep any budget surplus to improve their practice services.

Mr Clarke believes that under this scheme patients will have much more choice over where and when they are treated.

GPs will be given information about waiting lists in hospitals and will be able to "buy" treatment in private hospitals if this is quicker and more cost-effective.

Rates cash must not be used to keep down rents

By Nicholas Wood
Political Correspondent

Legislation aimed at stopping councils subsidizing rents from rate income, and tightening controls on their capital spending is to be introduced.

The measure has been denounced by Labour as the most vicious in the Government's programme because it believes it will lead to rent rises of £17 a week for the better-off 40 per cent of tenants.

It could also provoke protests from Conservative councillors and MPs worried about possible rate rises.

Dr John Cunningham, Labour's environment spokesman, said the fifth local government Bill since Mrs Thatcher came to power had all the hallmarks of being a thoroughly nasty and unfair collection of measures.

The Bill reforming section 2 of the Official Secrets Act will be published within the next two or three weeks. It will be in line with the proposals outlined in the White Paper in June: a mixture of liberalizing measures and tougher regulations.

The Bill will focus on the Government's desire to outlaw the unauthorized disclosure of official information which could cause an unacceptable degree of harm to the public interest. The responsibility for

HOUSING

The Housing and Local Government Bill envisages changes in three key areas: housing finance, capital finance and home improvement grants.

It will also seek to reform the conduct of local authority business by preventing senior council staff engaging in public political activity and banning the co-optation of non-elected members to most council committees.

Under the present system, councils are required to maintain a housing revenue account recording housing transactions. The account may not be in deficit at the end of the year, but authorities are free to top it up from their general rate fund. They may also

switch surpluses from the housing account to the rate fund.

Through such transfers, some Labour authorities have held down rents and some Conservative ones have kept their rates low.

But ministers believe there should be a more direct link between rents and the cost of council housing. They also think the taxpayer should benefit from housing account surpluses, which are largely the product of local circumstances.

They intend to stop discretionary transfers and introduce a new housing account subsidy to replace existing forms of assistance: housing subsidy, rent rebates and part of the rate support grant.

The new system means that councils running a housing account surplus - usually Conservative authorities in better-off areas - will have to surrender

information useful to criminals, and interception of telephone calls, mail and other forms of communication.

The Bill will strike its harshest note in the clause relating to the obligations of members of the security and intelligence services - the Government's way of describing MI5 and MI6 - to remain silent about every aspect of their work.

Any disclosure will be regarded as a criminal offence and will lead to prosecution. This is to underline the Government's determination to prevent any present or past intelligence officer from following the example of Mr Peter Wright, the former MI5 officer who

detailed alleged security service operations in his book *Spycatcher*.

But the Bill will make clear that if members of the media disclose information relating to security and intelligence, the prosecution will have to prove beyond reasonable doubt that it was likely to cause damage.

The Campaign for Freedom of Information said yesterday that it would fight the Bill. It said the proposed clause would be unacceptable without a public interest defence, under which a defendant could plead that disclosure of information was justified because it revealed serious wrongdoings.

The Bill will also seek to cut council debt, which stood at £45 billion at the end of 1986-87, and stamp out "creative accounting" through new curbs on capital finance. There will be a control on all forms of credit.

It is this aspect that could provoke opposition from Tory backbenchers alarmed at the prospect of what they regard as thrifty councils being made to subsidize profligacy.

The Department of the Environment insisted yesterday that there was no suggestion that rents should be forced to unreasonable levels, but maintained that surpluses generated from normal rent levels should be used to help areas most in need.

The Bill will also seek to cut council debt, which stood at £45 billion at the end of 1986-87, and stamp out "creative accounting" through new curbs on capital finance. There will be a control on all forms of credit.

Four Bills to start in Upper House

LORDS

Bills dealing with child abuse, football hooligans, mergers and monopolies and transport technology are expected to be introduced in the Lords before Christmas.

They are being started in the Lords to even out the workload between the two Houses and prevent a backlog of Bills coming up from the Commons late in the session.

The most contentious measure with a Lords' start is the Children Bill giving greater protection for children and new rights for parents in the wake of the Cleveland affair.

Peers were surprised to learn the Football Spectators Bill will be launched in their House. It will be piloted through by Lord Calveley, the Minister for the Environment, and Lord Ferrers, the Home Office Minister in the Lords. The Bill will start in the Lords because Lord Calveley will need to concentrate on the water privatization Bill later in the session.

Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industries, will introduce the Companies Bill, and Lord Brabazon, a transport minister, will bring in the Bill to pave the way for autoguides to help drivers.

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THE 11th 1980

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH

Bills to end fraud and job discrimination

EMPLOYMENT

By Philip Webster
and Tim Jones

New rules requiring people claiming unemployment benefit to show they are actively seeking work form the central feature of the Social Security Bill.

Existing unemployment benefit legislation is to be changed to provide that claimants should not only show that they are "available" for work, but that they are taking active steps to find it. Otherwise they will risk losing their benefits.

The proposal immediately came under attack last night from Mr Robin Cook, the shadow health secretary.

He said it was not an attempt to catch real cases of fraud, but was intended to deter genuine applicants from applying by forcing them to go through "humiliating hoops". There was already a whole battery of weapons available to the social security and employment departments to stop non-genuine claimants, he said.

The Government also promised an Employment Bill which will remove unnecessary obstacles to the employment of women and young people, and discontinue the Training Commission.

It will repeal legislation discriminating in employment and training matters against



The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh proceeding from the Royal Gallery to the Chamber of the House of Lords

women. Women will be able to work in the coalmines, and some restrictions on their working with machinery in factories will be lifted.

The Bill will remove restrictions on the hours of work of 16 to 18 year-olds, including the ban on night work.

Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, said the proposals were "among the most offensive" in the Queen's Speech, which contained a series of "divisive measures that will cause further damage to the fabric of our society".

He said: "It is offensive to

remove protection for young people at work. The Government will be sending them up chimneys next. There is no evidence that the removal of measures, some of which date back to the 1870s, will help the industry or young people."

The CBI said the measures

were generally to be welcome, but said some protection was likely to be necessary to protect young people against possible exploitation by unscrupulous employers. The CBI also welcomed the lifting of the "anti-quated legislation" concerning the employment of women.

The new crackdown on unemployment claimants is allied to measures being taken by the Department of Employment to stamp out benefit fraud.

The number of fraud investigators is to be increased by 100 to more than 800. The move comes after a recent survey in London showing that while 280,000 were out of work, there were 150,000 unfilled vacancies.

The Social Security Bill is also to extend from 75 to 80 the upper age limit for entitlement to a mobility allowance, and to abolish the Treasury supplement to the national insurance fund.

That will mean that all the money in the fund will in future be raised by national insurance contributions and not, as before, partly by taxation.

Mr Cook said that all national insurance benefits would now be funded by the workforce that paid into them. There was therefore no case for Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, to talk about mean-testing of such benefits; pensioners had paid their contributions and were entitled to the benefits.

The Employment Bill is to exempt firms with fewer than 20 employees from the requirement to give employees statements of disciplinary and grievance procedures; and extends from six months to two years the period of continuous employment necessary to qualify for a statement of reasons for dismissal.

Scotland to join opt-out scheme

By David Tytler
Education Editor

EDUCATION

Controversy will continue to surround Britain's schools and universities in the next 12 months, with Scottish parents being given the right to opt-out of local authority control in common with England and Wales.

The Queen's Speech committed the Government to "take action to raise standards throughout education" and to introduce legislation for Scotland to give parents the right to choose grant-maintained status.

The Educational Institute of Scotland, the country's teaching union, will campaign vigorously against the proposal, which it sees as the Anglicization of Scottish education.

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, faces battles on three fronts in England and Wales: the first decisions on schools wanting to opt-out of local authority control; the announcement of further city technology colleges; and plans for top-up student loans.

Fourteen schools have so far embarked on the opt-out procedure. Many of those are facing either closure or merger in local education reorganization plans aimed at cutting the number of surplus school places, and see opting out as their only chance of survival.

The first grant-maintained schools are expected to be functioning by next September. But it is likely that Mr Baker, who has to decide whether opt-out plans are viable, will turn down some schemes, so acting against parental wishes.

That could cause some embarrassment as a central aim of the Education Reform Act is to increase parent power in schools in England and Wales.

Mr Baker will also face criticism over the CTC programme which is progressing more slowly than he would have liked, largely because of the shortage of sites.

Parental and political objections will have to be overcome if he decides to close existing schools to make way for new colleges. So far, only one has opened with two more next year. The original plan was for 20 by 1990.

Mr Baker will also have to finalize his scheme for student top-up loans, which the Government sees as essential in reducing the burden to the taxpayer. He has indicated that if the High Street banks are not prepared to co-operate in the scheme he will seek alternative arrangements, with either the National Giro or foreign bank.

Learning lessons from Cleveland

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

CHILD CARE

A Children's Bill with measures for the emergency protection of children and increased rights for parents is expected to be introduced in the Lords this week.

The Bill comes in the wake of the Cleveland child abuse scandal and is being heralded as the "most important change in child care law in decades".

It will reform muddled public and private law on the care of children - now covered by more than 30 often contradictory statutes - giving all involved a clearer idea of their powers, rights and duties.

But the Bill will include no proposals for a Family Court. The Lord Chancellor has made clear that he wants to reform family law before changing the structure of the system.

Not will it establish an office of child protection: proposals for such an office - to scrutinize local authority care applications - have been widely criticized.

A main proposal is the emergency protection order lasting a maximum of eight days, to replace the 28-day piece of safety order widely used in Cleveland. Local authorities will have to obtain court approval each they want to take a child into care and show an order is in its best interests because its safety is at risk.

Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Department of Health, told the Law Society conference three weeks ago that the reform would put greater emphasis on action to avoid children being put into care.

The Bill would aim to steer a "careful path between effective protection for children who are

at risk, and respect and encouragement for the rights and responsibilities of parents".

Councils' powers to take children into care will be much more strictly circumscribed: they will not be able to assume responsibility for a child by passing a parental resolution.

Social services departments will need a court order to keep a child in care against parents' wishes and no order will be made unless the court considers it the most effective way of safeguarding the child's welfare.

Children will be removed only if there is reasonable cause to believe it is an emergency and the child's safety is at risk; and there will be a duty to return the child as soon as the risk has passed.

The Bill is expected to follow the White Paper on child care law published nearly two years ago in the wake of the deaths of Jasmine Beckford and Kimberley Carlisle.

That emphasized that parents should have rights of attendance at all court hearings, "reasonable" rights of access to their children and rights of appeal against care orders.

It will also contain new criteria on which courts must be satisfied before making care supervision orders; and courts will have to appoint a social worker as guardian *ad litem* to represent the child's interests.

Recent reforms making parents and grandparents parties to care proceedings will be extended, so that anyone whose legal position could be affected can apply to the court to be parties.

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Automatic guidance on beating traffic jams

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

TRANSPORT

Ministers will be given powers to license and regulate automatic car navigation systems, which will enable drivers to find the best and most traffic-free routes to their destinations.

The British system of car navigation is known as Autoguide, and a rudimentary system has been on trial on a single route in central London since April. That is planned to be extended to cover many of London's radial roads inside the M25, in the hope of having a fully developed and commercial system by the early 1990s. That would then be introduced nationally.

The system will operate through beacons at road junctions picking up information about traffic flows. That information will be relayed electronically to a control centre, where it will be collated. Guidance on route planning will then be transmitted to vehicles equipped with receivers.

The pilot scheme will probably have about 300 beacons,

with 1,000 vehicles being equipped to use the information gathered.

Legislation is required to enable the Department of Transport and the Welsh and Scottish offices to regulate schemes so they are compatible; and also because installing sensors and other equipment may involve roads being dug up, which is permitted only with statutory authority.

Another element of the legislation will be to harmonize British driving licences with regulations to be introduced by the European Community.

The separate licences for drivers of cars, heavy goods vehicles and public service vehicles will be abolished and replaced by a single document indicating which classes of vehicle the holder can drive.

It will also change the regulations on how often truck and bus drivers have to renew their licences.

Big rises in water bills

UTILITIES

Substantial increases in water bills will be the most noticeable accompaniment to privatization for most householders in England and Wales.

Northumbria Water recently projected an increase of a third in average bills of £100 a year. Elsewhere, estimates of increases in the annual charges for water and sewerage run from 20 to 50 per cent.

But ministers are anxious to dispel the idea that the increases will be caused by privatization. Mr Michael Howard, the minister for water and planning, has emphasized that consumers must expect to pay for new levels of investment in water treatment to improve the quality of tap water to high European Commission standards.

For electricity consumers,

privatization is more of a gamble. The Department of Energy has avoided predicting the effect on bills. The main factor is whether the electricity suppliers will be able to cut their costs by buying cheaper imported coal.

It has become clear, however, that consumers will have to pay more to cover the additional cost of generating electricity by nuclear power.

The extra will maintain nuclear power stations owned by the Central Electricity Generating Board; and pay for decommissioning existing stations and disposing of the nuclear materials they contain.

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STANDARD

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ICI to manufacture chemicals that are ecologically safe

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Two chemical plants, each costing £30 million, are to be built by ICI to produce the first ecologically safe substitutes for substances used in refrigerators, air conditioning systems, aerosols and plastic foam manufacture that are destroying the ozone layer in the upper atmosphere.

The new agents will replace the hazardous group of CFCs, chlorofluorocarbons, that damage the environment in two ways. They will add about 50p to the cost of a domestic refrigerator and 10 per cent to an aerosol.

However, they will provide a safe alternative to the existing range of materials that are "eating" the shield of ozone molecules in the stratosphere which filter the life-threatening forms of ultraviolet-B radiation from the Sun and prevent them from reaching the ground.

The hazardous CFCs also contribute 15 per cent of the so-called greenhouse gases being discharged into the atmosphere and threaten a global disruption of the climate. The new compounds have been developed under a £50 million research pro-

gramme to synthesize a chemically stable, non-poisonous, fireproof and environmentally harmless range of molecules.

The first member of the family, called HFC 134a, which denotes hydrofluorocarbon, will be made at a factory due for completion in 1991 at the company's site at Runcorn, Cheshire. The second factory will be completed a year later in the United States.

HFC 134a is a substitute for CFC 12 in refrigeration and air-conditioning applications and accounts for about one-third of all uses.

Restrictions on the production and emission of CFCs, agreed at an international meeting in Montreal, Canada, in September last year, placed an immediate freeze on levels of consumption and called for a 50 per cent cut over the next 10 years.

The agreement also covers CFC 11, CFC 113, CFC 114 and CFC 115—used variously in plastic foam and insulation manufacture, aerosols, solvents in the electronics industry, dry cleaning fluid and refrigerants. Another group of

materials with similar properties, called Halons 1211, 1301 and 2402, are included in the restrictions.

Car manufacturers believe motorists are now prepared to pay more than £500 extra for cars with much-reduced toxic exhaust emissions, even though in Britain "clean" cars are not yet mandatory under EEC legislation (Daniel Ward writes). For larger cars this will not take effect until 1992.

Audi UK is considering selling only "clean" catalyst equipped cars in 1989. Mr Peter Cover, Audi UK's sales and marketing director, said yesterday: "There is now an inevitable momentum in the UK for cleaner cars".

Mr Cover said the final decision will depend upon the availability of unleaded petrol. Leaded four star petrol cannot be used in catalyst-equipped cars.

The Forestry Commission is considering legal action against Mr Frank Bayada, the new owner of the 34-acre Brockenhurst Copse, one of the most important wildlife sites in the New Forest, Hampshire, after discovering that he has bulldozed it.

Leading the fight against school truancy

Mrs Angela Rumbold, the education minister, will launch a government drive today to cut record levels of truancy and absenteeism in schools. Peter Davenport joined Bradford's anti-truancy patrols for a day to see how one city is tackling the problem.

It is 9.30 am in the briefing room of the central police station in Bradford, West Yorkshire, and Sergeant Martin McKeown is outlining the day's objectives.

Each of six uniformed policemen is partnered with an education welfare officer. The teams will patrol selected parts of the city looking for truants. Other welfare officers, in civilian clothes, will act as "spotters".

Within the first 30 minutes of Sergeant McKeown's patrol, 10 children, mostly teenage boys, are "lifted" and taken to the education welfare office next to the police station.

The reactions of the truants vary. One teenage girl is in tears; a boy in a red baseball cap, an earring dangling from one lobe, is apparently unconcerned.

Previously, such children would simply have been returned to their schools after their excuse for being on the streets was checked.

It is here that Bradford's experiment at combating truancy differs from other attempts. Welfare officers contact the parents of truants and ask them to visit the education welfare office. They are interviewed with their children to try to uncover the reasons



PC Nicholas Whitcombe and Mr Dean Choudhary, a welfare officer, talking to truants in Bradford yesterday.

behind absenteeism. Those usually include difficulty with lessons or some sort of family disruption.

The pupils' future behaviour is closely monitored through contact with parents and teachers. Only a few are caught playing truant more than once.

Bradford has 85,000 children at 280 schools and the anti-truancy patrols, held on

random days each week, are being stepped up in the approach to Christmas.

Truants present two main problems to the police. Sergeant McKeown says 17 per cent become involved in crime, usually shoplifting or theft from cars. There is also the risk, in an age of heightened awareness of child abuse, of truant pupils becoming the victims of crime themselves.

The city's anti-truancy patrols have been running for a year. A provisional report has been sent to the Home Office and a more detailed survey will be prepared in the new year.

Although no national statistics are available, it is estimated that every day in Britain, one in 13 pupils—about 7.5 per cent of the country's nine million schoolchildren—is absent from

school. Truancy is thought to account for about 40 per cent.

In a speech to the Association of Metropolitan Authorities in Doncaster today, Mrs Rumbold is expected to urge local authorities to keep a closer check on truancy, its cause, and possible solutions.

One option may be to design a curriculum that makes lessons more attractive to the persistent truant.

Actor's libel action on 'drug aid' story

Richard Harris, the actor, claimed libel damages in the High Court yesterday over allegations that he had used his own methods irresponsibly in an attempt to lure his son off hard drugs.

Mr Harris is suing over the article in the gossip column of the *Daily Star* newspaper in September last year.

Mr Harris claims the story means that he had only just begun to heed professional advice to help his son, Jamie, aged 25, a heroin addict, having until recently irresponsibly tried to lure him off hard drugs by using his own methods.

He also says the article gives the impression that he talked to a gossip columnist about his family's problems.

Mr David Eady, QC, for Mr Harris, told Mr Justice Michael Davies and a jury that the past few years had been plagued with problems for the actor.

He said: "From 1984 to 1987 his younger son had suffered from a drug problem".

Mr Harris and his former wife Elizabeth were "preoccupied" during those three years with the problem. Then in November 1986 the actor's younger brother, Dermot,

died suddenly.

Mr Harris was distraught and set up the Dermot Harris Foundation in memory of his brother, to help disadvantaged students.

It was Mr Harris's fundraising attempts for the foundation that brought about an interview with Mr John McEntee, an Irish newspaper journalist, in August last year.

The two men continued their conversation "off the record" after the interview.

Mr Harris said that he never spoke about his son because Jamie had been hounded by the press in the past, but he relented.

Mr McEntee "did the dirty" on Mr Harris by "betraying and exploiting his trust", Mr Eady said.

He did a "deal" with the *Star* and a version of the story was published.

Mr Harris said: "I was angry and I am still angry about it. He was a friend of my brother. I assumed he wouldn't do what he did."

The actor is suing the publishers of the *Star*, Express Newspapers and the editor of the gossip column, Mr Neil Mackwood, who "deny the words are defamatory and say they are true."

The hearing was adjourned until today.

World War pilot's VC nets £99,000

The Victoria Cross awarded to William Leefe Robinson, the first pilot to shoot down a Zeppelin, sold for £99,000 at Christie's London yesterday, nearly £40,000 more than its estimate.

It was bought by an unnamed Englishman who stood bidding at the back of the crowded room, and fled immediately after the sale.

The medal, which was offered with mementoes such as Robinson's travelling clock, his "lucky coin" and five pieces of the ill-fated Zeppelin he shot down from his biplane, had been sent for sale by Robinson's niece, Mrs Regina Libin of Haywards Heath, West Sussex.

The proceeds will go towards a new charity, A Medal for Life, to provide nursing for children with leukaemia.

Mrs Libin said after the sale: "My uncle would certainly have approved. He was a get-up-and-go man. If there was a deed to be done, off he went."

The attack on the SL11 in 1916 was one of the most celebrated events in the First World War, turning Robinson

into a national hero. Three Zeppelins had been bombed in 1915 (two in their hangars, one as it descended for landing), but this was the first to be hit as it flew 12,500 ft over north London.

At Sotheby's yesterday a vast Chinese "Mappa Mundi", in six sections each more than two metres high, and showing the "10,000 countries of the earth" fetched £209,000. It was bought by the Dutch dealer Nico Israel, and was top lot at the second section of the Library of the Pall Mall bookseller Philip Robinson.

The price for the Chinese "Mappa Mundi" was an out and out record for a printed map.

The map, designed to fill a folding screen, was published in 1602 by Father Matteo Ricci, the first Jesuit to enter China.

Demonstration delays Hinkley Point inquiry

Two protesters in white protective suits yesterday briefly halted the Hinkley Point nuclear power station public inquiry in Cardiff.

Shortly after the session began in the city's New Theatre Mr Joseph Harries and Mr Graeme Pratt walked on to the stage carrying a dustbin of mock nuclear waste.

When they refused to leave Mr Michael Barnes QC, the inquiry inspector, ordered a 10-minute adjournment.

A little later he called another break after a local Communist Party representative, Mr Max Wallis, tried to make his own statement.

The inquiry, which began

last month, had moved to Cardiff from Camington, Somerset, to hear some of the 4,000 Welsh objections.

Later yesterday, after 100 demonstrators had ringed the theatre, Mr Harries said his protest had been on behalf of those Welsh objectors who feared they were not being allowed enough time to put their case against the £1.5 billion pressurized water reactor at Hinkley Point, 20 miles from Cardiff.

After the disruptions Mr Jon Owen Jones, a Cardiff Labour councillor, said 300,000 people would have to be evacuated from the city in the event of an accident at Hinkley Point.



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Triumphant Mulroney kicks off final phase of controversial accord

Watershed poll clears way for trade pact

From Christopher Thomas, Ottawa

Mr Brian Mulroney, the Canadian Prime Minister, who was returned with a clear but substantially reduced majority in Monday's general election, will recall Parliament next month to ratify a sweeping trade pact with the United States.

He is the first Canadian to win an election on an outright pledge to take his country into closer, formal economic union with the United States — a development long regarded by many Canadians with deep suspicion.

The election marks a watershed in relations with the southern neighbour, clearing the way for the creation of a tariff-free North American trading bloc that is widely regarded as a counterweight to greater European economic integration.

The election, which amounted to a referendum on the pact, ends nearly a century of attempts to tie the two economies together in a formal trading relationship in which cross-border obstacles are all but eliminated. As tariffs are abolished over the next decade, Canadian and American businesses will find themselves competing equally in the two countries.

Mr Mulroney's Progressive Conservatives, who went into the election with 211 parliamentary seats after a 1984 landslide, took 170 seats in the 295-seat Parliament, with the

Liberals capturing 82 — more than double their 1984 performance — and the New Democrats a record 43.

But in a stunning blow five Cabinet members lost their seats — the Solicitor General, Justice Minister, Public Works Minister, Environment Minister and Communications Minister.

One big question now is whether Mr John Turner, the Liberal leader, can survive. Since taking over from Mr Pierre Trudeau in 1984 he has fought off several internal rebellions, leaving the party divided and demoralized. At one point it almost went bankrupt.

The outcome has silenced speculation that the Liberals were about to be dislodged by the New Democrats, a socialist party, as the official opposition. The Liberals increased their representation in Parliament while the New Democrats were solidly confirmed as the third party, losing two of their 13 seats in Ontario and several star candidates in the Prairie Provinces.

Mr Edward Broadbent, the New Democrats' leader, had hoped at least to hold the balance of power in a minority parliament. His party spent a third of its election budget in Quebec in the hope of bolstering its claim to be a national party. Mr Broadbent may now face a leadership battle.

The trade deal raised old

antagonisms between French-speaking Quebec Province and Ontario, where academics and leading politicians mounted a fierce campaign against the pact. Quebec's political leaders said the campaign was another example of Ottawa trying to protect its economic supremacy at Quebec's expense by denying access to American markets.

But surprisingly, Ontario voters fell behind the pact, turning the tide for Mr Mulroney after the Atlantic provinces demonstrated opposition to the accord in the first returns on election night, evidently out of fear that it would threaten traditional government-backed regional development programmes.

The election ended more than 50 years of Liberal domination of Quebec by giving the Progressive Conservatives 62 of the province's 75 seats. That dashed Liberal hopes of returning to their traditional, overwhelming level of support in the province.

Quebecers who do not share the fears of English-speaking Canadians about cultural domination by the US, were clearly convinced that Mr Mulroney, who was born in a Quebec mill town, could be trusted to continue supporting the province with substantial government grants and subsidies.

The Prime Minister also convinced them that he would

keep the bargain of the 1980 referendum by pushing for constitutional change under the Meech Lake Accord, which would recognize Quebec's distinctive position in Canada. It has long been one of Mr Mulroney's cherished political ambitions to displace the primacy of the Liberals in Quebec and to be accepted by his own people as the defender of their interests.

It was impressive that he achieved that ambition while simultaneously convincing Ontarians that it was time to look towards, rather than to build walls around the province's economy. His victory in Ontario was all the more sweet because every opinion poll had pointed to a crushing rejection of the his party and, therefore, the free-trade agreement.

Mr Mulroney's comeback has been remarkable after an indecisive and scandal-plagued initial two years in power. The Conservatives had dropped to third place in opinion polls with 22 per cent, the lowest ever recording for a party in power.

He captured 43 per cent in the election, 7 per cent down from 1984.

The Liberals took 35 per cent, a 7 per cent increase, while the New Democrats remained almost static with 18 per cent. The remainder of the vote was split among smaller parties.



The right balance: Mr Mulroney kicking a balloon during his election victory celebrations.

America delighted by decisive victory

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Americans were delighted by the conclusive victory of Mr Brian Mulroney and expressed their confidence in the Free Trade Agreement and continuing close relations with their northern neighbour by buying Canadian dollars.

President Reagan was also expected to send a telegram of congratulation to Mr Mulroney, with whom he established a warm relationship. Mr Reagan's resolute

defence of the trade agreement and dismissal of the doubts about it raised by the opposition Liberals provoked an angry reaction from Mr John Turner, the Liberal leader, who accused him and Mrs Thatcher of intervening in Canadian affairs.

Trade officials, expressing relief, said a rejection of Mr Mulroney, and by implication the Free Trade Agreement, would have set a precedent

that would have thrown a shadow over other multilateral trade agreements.

Americans were also surprised and hurt by the emotional outpouring of anti-American sentiment released during the Canadian campaign.

Most Americans are unaware of Canadian fears of political and economic domination, and reacted sharply to suggestions that

they were bullying Canada or trying to force American values and way of life on their neighbour.

The strong appeal of anti-American nationalism, however, will remain as a warning to the Bush Administration, which is now likely to be more sensitive to lingering Canadian worries on the Free Trade Agreement and especially on acid rain and other environmental issues.

Thatcher gives new hope to Moscow for better relations

From A Correspondent, Moscow

Mrs Thatcher has given Moscow new hope of improved East-West relations during her visit to Washington, according to Mr Gennady Gerasimov, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman.

With less than a month to go before President Gorbachev visits Britain, Mr Gerasimov noted that the Prime Minister had said the relationship with the Soviet Union was no longer one dominated by a cold war but "a new relationship resting on a much broader basis" than had been the case up till now.

"The words uttered by another British Conservative leader, Winston Churchill, in his Fulton Speech in March 1946 come to mind," Mr Gerasimov said at a Soviet

youth conference. "The cold war is generally reckoned to have started at that moment. To what extent does the new relationship between the two nations have to change for new generation British leaders to close the hard page in the history of international relations, the page which had been opened by their predecessors?"

Mr Gerasimov said Mrs Thatcher, with good reason, had recognized new relationships between East and West. But she had made a "regrettable reservation rooted in the subconsciousness of the cold war period" by referring to the Iron Curtain which she said still existed between East and West.

"A reference to the Iron Curtain in the age of glasnost

looks like an anachronism to say the least," Mr Gerasimov said. He said the Kremlin concluded from Mrs Thatcher's remarks in Washington that her renunciation of the cold war constituted evidence of a reassessment of the basic principles of relations between East and West.

Asked whether Mr Gorbachev would invite the Queen to visit the Soviet Union during his visit to Britain, he said: "That is a hypothetical question and we should not anticipate events."

● MOSCOW: Sergei Sedov, who was shot in Moscow in 1937 after his father, the revolutionary leader Leon Trotsky, was alleged to have plotted to kill Stalin, has been rehabilitated (Renter reports).

Soviet shuttle a 'costly mistake'

From John Wilford, New York

Fresh from its triumphant first flight in space a week ago, the Soviet Union's new space shuttle now faces the same challenges and criticisms that are confronting its American competitor.

The most outspoken opponent of the programme, Mr Roald Sagdeyev, the retiring director of the Space Research Institute in Moscow, said that the Soviet shuttle was "an outstanding technological achievement" but a costly mistake.

"It went up, it came down," said Mr Sagdeyev, who is visiting the United States with Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Soviet scientist and human rights campaigner. "But it had absolutely no scientific value," he said. "My personal view is that American experience with the shuttle indicates that from the point of view of

cost efficiency, the shuttle is in deep trouble. It is much simpler and cheaper to fly a payload with any kind of expendable vehicle."

Soviet officials, in describing their shuttle in recent days, were especially vague about its purpose. They said it could be used to bring heavy payloads back from orbit for repairs but gave no hint what those payloads might be.

American experts on the Soviet programme say they could see no immediate justification for a fleet of the reusable Soviet shuttles. Some speculated that in the long run it might be the first step towards assembling and operating a large orbiting space station in the next decade.

The Russians themselves may not know what they will be using the shuttle for," said

an American specialist on Soviet technology.

Few years' some Soviet officials complained that their shuttle was just a misguided effort to match the US. But not until recently had they become bold enough to criticize their programme directly and in public.

In an unusually blunt article recently on Soviet science, Mr Sagdeyev asserted that the American shuttle, and by implication the Soviet version too, was a costly mistake.

"The US aerospace industry, like the Soviet industry bureaucracies, used its influence to subvert the logic of science," he wrote. "We have put too much emphasis on manned flight at the expense of unmanned efforts that produced more scientific information at lower cost."

Mr Sagdeyev is a scientist

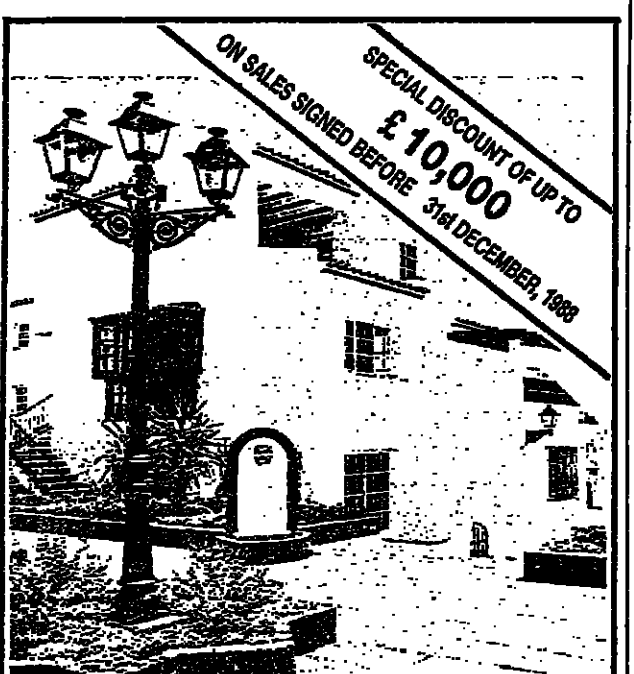
whose main interest is, among other things, the exploration of the planets through increasingly international co-operation, and his objections to the shuttle and manned flight echo those of American scientists in similar positions.

But the Soviet scientist is also a close adviser to President Gorbachev and has become more outspoken as the President's reformist regime in Moscow has secured its hold on power.

"It's clear there's opposition to the shuttle in the Soviet Union," said Mr Marcia Smith, an analyst of the Soviet space programme.

"Mr Sagdeyev is more openly critical than others, he said, because he either 'has the blessing of Gorbachev and is immune, or else he's really taking a risk'."

(New York Times)



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A hard slog for the French Prime Minister

Rocard beset by sea of troubles

From Our Own Correspondent Paris

It is exactly six months since Michel Rocard moved into the Prime Minister's office at the Matignon, and he concedes it has been a hard slog. Small and slight with a rather perplexed air at the best of times, Mr Rocard must occasionally feel like Hamlet contemplating a sea of troubles.

Beset for weeks by a nationwide wave of public sector strikes and go-slows calculated to enrage the French (and they do), he has also been given the roughest of rides trying to get next year's budget through Parliament before 1989.

And as the left wing of M Rocard's own Socialist Party lays into his economic and financial programmes with rare gusto, the right wing of the Conservatives continues to pour scorn on the dismal turnout in the recent referendum to endorse his proposals for New Caledonia.

Meanwhile, France's merciless cartoonists have had a field day with the spectacle of a clearly smitten Socialist Prime Minister's sipping attendance upon the Princess of Wales during the royal visit. *Le Canard Enchaîné* had him nose in air, addressing a pair of trade union demonstrators: "Allow me to observe, gentlemen, that your conversation is much less absorbing than that of their Highnesses."

But is Mr Rocard sagging on the ropes under this sustained battering? Not to judge by a combative performance in an interview just published by *Le Nouvel Observateur*.

The Prime Minister's main message for the striking classes was certainly un-



M Rocard: "I've never signed a blank cheque yet".

compromising: there will be no let up in the present *rigueur* for at least another 15 months. Even then, the constraints will be relaxed only if key economic indicators, especially the inflation rate and foreign trade deficit, have taken a

clear turn for the better. M Rocard pointed out that the present crisis in the public sector has its roots in a salary squeeze that dates back to the early 1980s.

The Government has laid a pay package on the table, the Prime Minister observed, but the unions view it as slamming down a take-it-or-leave-it offer. What's more, anyone who considered Rocard to be a pushover should think again: "I have never signed a blank cheque in my life."

The Government's 40 days of budgetary embarrassment in the National Assembly tellingly reflect M Rocard's lack of an absolute majority there.

The unseemly haggling this involved to secure the passage of key sections of the Bill, left no less than five ministers high and dry without approved budgets only hours before last Friday's deadline for approval of the full mea-

sures for 1989. Thanks to a strategic last-minute abstention by the Communists, M Rocard was not finally obliged to roll out the guillotine and demand a vote of confidence, a gambit which the Socialists had criticized bitterly on the numerous occasions it was employed by the previous Chirac government.

And then M Rocard has to think about president Mitterrand, the Sphinx of the Elysée. One minute he is muttering disloyal asides designed to undermine the Prime Minister's waning confidence, the next he is praising M Rocard's performance. We had a glimpse of M Mitterrand's calculated ambiguity last week, when he pinned the Grand Cross of the Order of Merit on the Rocard lapel in the traditional recognition of six months at the Matignon.

All things considered, M Mitterrand observed that the Prime Minister had done well in decidedly trying circumstances. Yes, he continued loftily, M Rocard had shown himself worthy of the hopes which the President had entertained when deciding to give him the job in the first place.

A new opinion poll shows the French to be less satisfied with M Rocard as a result of the labour disputes during the past month.

Thirty-seven per cent of those questioned indicated that they were either "very unhappy" or "more unhappy" about his performance, an eight point increase over the previous month.

The number of those satisfied with his performance dipped by three points to 41 per cent. By contrast, President Mitterrand saw his personal approval rating drop by only one point.

Miners attack police after pay talks failure

Paris (Renter) — About 500 miners from the impoverished eastern region of Lorraine clashed violently with riot police yesterday outside the Paris home of M Michel Rocard, the Prime Minister.

A police spokesman said 25 officers were slightly injured in clashes during a rally protesting against the failure of wage talks. Two police officers were taken to hospital.

The miners threw iron bars and burning sticks at a police cordon, overturned a police car and smashed shop windows and car windshields. The violence erupted after a

WORLD ROUNDUP

Bush pledge on tackling deficit

Washington — President-elect George Bush yesterday told America's Republican governors in Alabama that he would name White House negotiators to meet members of Congress to discuss the deficit on the first day of his presidency (Michael Binyon writes). He said he would take a "hands-on" role in meeting congressmen of both parties.

"The problem of the federal deficit is pressing and I do intend to do whatever I can to work constructively with the US Congress to solve that problem," he said. Mr Bush said he would also ask the governors to rely on their "knowledge and good sense". He urged the governors in a belated celebration of their election victory before going to Houston to extend his offer of co-operation across the border at a meeting with President-elect Carlos Salinas de Gortari of Mexico at a private lunch.

Arafat's visa claim

Cairo — In the face of widespread Jewish-American objections, Mr Yasser Arafat, leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, claimed yesterday that the US had granted him a visa to address the UN General Assembly (Christopher Walker writes). His claim was denied by a Washington spokesman. Conor Cruise O'Brien, page 16

Bhutto sees President

Islamabad (Renter) — Miss Benazir Bhutto, the Opposition leader, met President Isiah Khan yesterday for talks which could lead to her forming Pakistan's next government and becoming the Muslim world's first woman prime minister. The acting head of state, aged 73, was due to meet Miss Bhutto's rival, Mr Nawaz Sharif, for talks late last night. The separate meetings are taking place six days after Miss Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party achieved a strong showing but failed to reach an overall majority in the first party-based polls for 11 years.

Spain expels Britons

Madrid — A judge in Madrid yesterday ordered the three British citizens arrested in the weekend raid on a Scientologist conference here to be deported from Spain (Philip Jacobson writes). Miss Janet Murray, Mr Michael Wenlock and Mr William Tucker must leave the country within the next 40 days. They are not expected to face charges arising from the police investigation of alleged financial and criminal offences committed by the Church of Scientology in Spain. Other foreigners among the 71 people detained on Sunday are also likely to receive expulsion orders within the next few days.

FLIGHT EH 0203 FROM GATWICK.

The Little Owl.
Scopo athene, hunts
regularly over
Gatwick's 2,400 acres
of fields and woods.



*When naturalist
Gerald Durrell goes
on safari at the
world's second busiest
international airport,
anything can happen.
So welcome to
Gatwick, where the
jumbos co-exist
happily with a herd
of roe deer and where
the first flight from
the new £210 million
North Terminal was
a little owl.*

I have been to see animals and plants in some extraordinary places: frozen Russian tundras, the Brazilian rain forest, burning Australian mountains, the cactus-prickly deserts of South-ern Arizona.

I have searched for creatures by helicopter, on horseback, from balloon and canoe; in catacombs and cemeteries, under water and underground.

But I never thought I would be coming to see animals and plants at the world's second busiest inter-national airport.

It was therefore with a certain scepticism that I boarded the canary yellow Land Rover that was to carry us on our mini-safari to the wilds of Gatwick.

Our guide was Alan Baldock, who has worked at the airport for twenty years and appears to know every field, tree, bird and animal intimately.

The tour began where the River Mole emerges from a concrete culvert that channels it under the main runway.

"See how it's reverting to nature," said Alan enthusiastically. "Fish lurk about in the mouth of it. There are stalactites growing inside and a thriving colony of bats live there."

(I wonder how many of the twenty million people who landed or took off at Gatwick in the last year knew they were doing it over a bats' roost.)

"Look, aerobatics!" cried Lee, my wife, suddenly. Startled, I looked up, but it's not the Red Arrows buzzing the control tower, it was a pair of blue Agrion damselflies.

As they're very sensitive to pollution one would hardly expect to find them at the world's No. 2 inter-national airport. (The

new North Terminal, I am informed, will enable the airport to handle some twenty-five million passengers a year.)

With 114 airlines flying in and out - and more international travellers than New York's Kennedy Airport - you'd expect the environment to be inimical to wildlife. But from what we saw, clearly it isn't.

Sticklebacks, roach, dace and even pike swarm in the sherry-brown water of the river, and Lee and I saw the opalescent flash of a kingfisher hunting from bank to bank.

The woods nearby are full of plants with wildly poetic names - Adder's Tongue Fern, Enchanter's Nightshade, Dog's Mercury, and something that should surely be banned from airports - Yorkshire Fog.

We moved slowly downstream, to where the Mole has been carefully diverted to make way for the North Terminal.

The massive amount of soil this generated was raised into huge environmental banks, which screen the new terminal and house its central heating boilers.

Foxes use them as sun beds and they also provide a fine larder of voles and field mice for the stoats, weasels and owls that live in the area. (Little owls, plentiful in the Gatwick area, often carry leg rings with numbers that sound like airline flights.)

That the ecology is in

good shape is evidenced by the presence of so many predators. In a crisis, the animals at the top of the food chain are the first to suffer.

Next on our agenda was the airport's long-term car park where I was amazed to find that, looking down on 14,000 vehicles, I could hardly see them for trees.

Like many other parts of the airport, it seems to blend into the rolling wooded Sussex landscape. BAA has spent more than £10 million at Gatwick on environmental work

since the mid-seventies and planted nearly half a million trees and shrubs.

At the height of summer, looking after the airport's fifty yard thick perimeter belt of trees can be a full time job for several men.

The river Mole's new floodplain, Alan said, is to be planted with rare wetland plants. He pointed out a hemlock water-dropwort with its fern-like foliage.

"Deadly," he remarked with gloomy relish, and the conversation turned to the nasty surprises that some of the most innocent looking creatures can give a naturalist.

In Australia, for example, I take great care with the Duck-billed Platypus, so charmingly like Donald Duck in a fur coat, but with venomous spurs on its legs.

And I always watch myself around hippos and elephants during the mating season for fear of being mistaken for a rival.

"It can get a bit like that here," said Alan, "in the breeding season. The bucks get all uppity with each other."

Bucks? Did he say 'bucks'? But after bats, pike and fine-leaved hemlock water-dropworts, why should it surprise me that there are roe deer living within four hundred yards of the runway. (Kept off it, I should add, by more than a mile of seven foot high deer fence.)

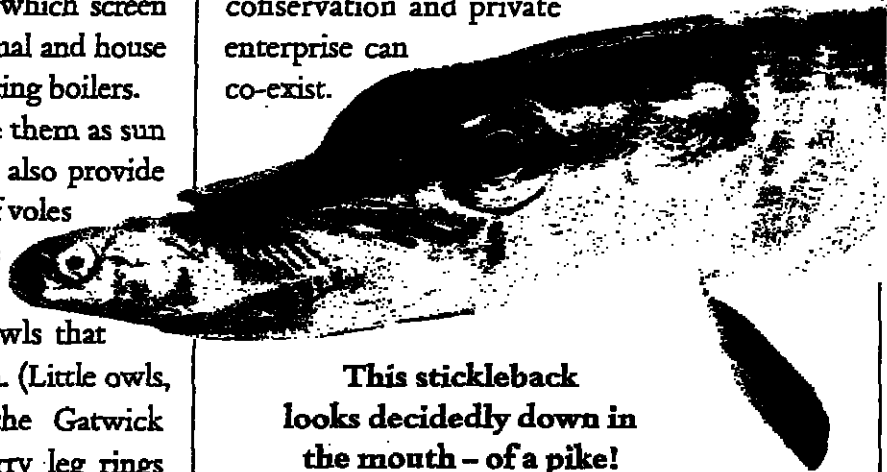
Sadly, the deer were shy, but in spacious green meadows framed with woodland we saw two herons pacing, grey as churchwardens in the lush grass.



**Twenty million people each year
land and take off within 400 yards of
a herd of wild Roe deer.**

We soon discovered what they were after. The grass was full of baby frogs, glistening as if newly-enamelled.

All my life I have urged companies that own land to look after it responsibly. Not to damage the ecology. At Gatwick, BAA have shown that conservation and private enterprise can co-exist.



**This stickleback
looks decidedly down in
the mouth - of a pike!**

For some time, we had been followed by two airport operations men in a yellow BAA Land Rover.

"Are they afraid I will pinch all your flora and fauna?" I asked Alan. He pulled over and the other vehicle came alongside.

"If you're looking for Bee Orchids, we'd like to see them too," explained the 'ops' men.

It was the perfect end to an extraordinary day.

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**The Kingfisher surveys his domain
on the River Mole.**



**It's a happy hunting
ground for grass snakes.**

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Washington angry at Pretoria over black activist trials

By Our Foreign Staff

The United States has accused the South African Government of a "deplorable" misuse of its judicial system for political purposes in the recent trial of prominent black South African activists.

"Several of these defendants are highly regarded spokespersons for peaceful black opposition to the injustices wrought by apartheid in South Africa," Mr Charles Redman, spokesman for the US State Department, said. "It is inconceivable that their political activities would have qualified as treason or terrorism in this country or any other democracy. We call upon the South African Government to ensure that the defendants are accorded a speedy and impartial appeals process." On Friday three leaders of the largest anti-apartheid organization, the United Democratic Front

(UDF), and one other black activist were found guilty of treason after South Africa's longest trial in modern times. Seven other defendants were convicted of terrorism, which, like treason, carries a maximum penalty of death. Eight defendants were acquitted.

Mr Redman observed on Monday that the trial had lasted for more than three years and was an example, as the presiding judge noted, of justice delayed being justice denied.

"The clear intent of the South African Government during this trial has been to neutralize prominent black opponents through protracted judicial proceedings and imprisonment," he said. "This misuse of the South African judicial system for political purposes is deplorable."

In the second lengthy trial to end in South Africa within a

week two alleged members of the African National Congress guerrilla group were convicted of treason on Monday. The Pretoria Supreme Court convicted Ebrahim Ismail Ebrahim and Simon Dladla, who were alleged to have planted land mines. They had pleaded not guilty.

The trial, which opened in August last year, aroused controversy because lawyers alleged that Ebrahim had been abducted from neighbouring Swaziland. Hethen turned up in the hands of South African police.

Ebrahim, said by authorities to be a key ANC activist, also featured in the trial of Helene Passtoors, from Belgium, who is serving a 10-year prison sentence in South Africa for treason. Passtoors was alleged to have helped find an escape route from South Africa for Ebrahim.

Christina's last days of happiness



One of the last photographs of Christina Onassis, right, enjoying herself last week with her friend, Señora de la Fuente de Lacroze, at a Uruguayan Embassy reception in Buenos Aires, reinforces her relatives' claims that she had no intention of committing suicide, but died of a heart attack last Saturday.

Federal Judge Daniel Piotti said yesterday that because the chemical and toxicological tests made of the organs could take around 15 days, he would authorize the removal of the body of the millionaire if experts said they had enough samples to continue to investigate the cause of death (Michael Llanos writes from Buenos Aires).

A second judge involved in the case, Señor Juan Cardinali, echoed Señor Piotti's statements, but Señor Piotti left open the possibility of a second post-

mortem examination if the experts found that they needed more samples. These were still being examined yesterday.

Señor Piotti, investigating the possibility that Miss Onassis may have died of an overdose of prescription drugs, earlier had barred the transfer of the body while the cause of death was being established.

"It is not our intention to scare anyone with the decision not to authorize the transfer of the corpse," he said yesterday, "but things have to be cleared up before taking any action."

On Monday, a preliminary post-mortem examination report found that Miss Onassis had died on Saturday morning of acute pulmonary oedema, a blood clot in the lungs, but it has not yet been determined what caused the oedema.

The preliminary report also revealed that Miss Onassis died where she was found — at the country club home of her best friends, Marina and Alberto Dodero — settling the question of whether she may have died on her way to hospital.

Meanwhile, court sources said yesterday that the first doctor to examine Miss Onassis's body testified in court that he was ordered out of the Doderos' home "for asking questions".

Dr Arturo Granadillos Fuentes is said to have testified that Miss Onassis's hair was wet even though her body was on a bed. Dr Fuentes, called in by the Doderos, added that, on entering the adjoining bathroom, he was ordered back to the bedroom.

The sources said that Señor Fuentes testified that he then tried to examine the corpse again, but was told to leave it as it was.

Peres faces party split as coalition quest fails

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

The Labour Party yesterday appeared to abandon all hope of forcing itself powerfully enough into the next Israeli government, leaving Mr Yitzhak Shamir another 12 days in which to try to form a new coalition with the right-wing and religious parties.

A Labour statement said that there was no basis for continuing talks with Likud to try to form another broad coalition. Mr Shimon Peres, the Labour leader, therefore seems destined to take his party into opposition and to start a difficult struggle to hold it together.

Negotiations between Likud and Labour foundered on Mr Shamir's refusal to give enough senior portfolios to Labour and on his rejection of any kind of agreement that the Cabinet would try to move the peace process forward.

Labour, although prepared to support Mr Shamir as Prime Minister for the full four-year term of the Knesset, wanted two of the three most senior Cabinet posts. Mr Shamir, while possibly prepared to surrender defence again to Mr Yitzhak Rabin, was not prepared to allow Mr Peres either the finance or foreign ministries.

A spokesman from the Foreign Ministry, which Mr Peres still heads, said yesterday that the Likud negotiators had also failed to convince Labour that they would form a government ready to put Israel on the right track for peace.

On the Likud side, a spokesman for Mr Shamir said the Prime Minister had still not given up the possibility of forming a broad-based government, but that he was now prepared to go with a "narrow government" if necessary.

Firms accused on oil embargo

From James Bone, New York

British companies are helping South Africa evade a voluntary United Nations oil embargo, an inter-governmental group claimed yesterday.

A group of 11 nations appointed by the UN General Assembly to monitor oil supplies to South Africa said British Petroleum and Shell had played a prominent role in the country's oil trade.

The group said: "Both BP and Shell are allegedly still involved in oil imports in South Africa." Citing infor-

mation from the Anti-Apartheid Movement in Britain, the group also alleged that British companies were involved in a South African project to drill for natural gas from offshore platforms and convert it into motor fuels at a plant at Mossel Bay.

The group called on the United Nations Security Council to impose a mandatory ban and urged individual states to pass laws curbing oil supplies to South Africa.

● LONDON: A spokesman for Shell International denied

that the company was involved in supplying oil to South Africa, directly or indirectly (Anne McElvoy writes).

BP said it would not respond to the allegations until it had seen them in detail. A spokesman said: "We simply do not supply oil, crude or product, to South Africa."

A South African Embassy spokesman said: "Various firms from all over the globe are involved... It is possible that British firms are involved, but I cannot verify it."

Spanish trains contract

Paris drives hard bargain

From Philip Jacobson, Madrid

The final stage of a ferocious commercial battle to win a \$550 million order for providing Spain's new high-speed train network has seen the French Government applying some fairly unsubtle diplomatic arm twisting.

The destiny of the contract will be high on the agenda in today's talks in Montpellier in southern France, the latest of the "summits" between the Spanish Prime Minister, Señor Felipe González, and President Mitterrand.

As Señor González is uncomfortable aware, the French are determined that Alsthom Atlantique's bid will land the lion's share of the work in the face of intense competition from Siemens of West Germany, and the Japanese industrial giant, Mitsubishi.

It is no coincidence that Spanish newspapers were informed a few days ago, through "impeccable sources" in Paris, that M Mitterrand

has decided to take a close personal interest in the matter.

The same official sources made it clear that France would regard the award of the contract — expected within the next few weeks — as either a competitor as "an inadmissible political gesture".

Since Señor González readily acknowledges the crucial assistance of successive French governments in combating Basque terrorism — and the need to remain on good terms with Paris in the build-up to the Barcelona Olympics and Seville's World Fair in 1992 — it seems most unlikely that M Mitterrand would leave Montpellier entirely empty-handed.

But Siemens and Mitsubishi will not give up without a fight, and both have enlisted their own powerful official backing. The Japanese firm, lowest bidder by a full 30 per cent, recently issued a public statement declaring

that the award of the contract to either of Spain's most important partners in Europe would show "that the Spanish Government does not respect Japan", and hinting at retaliation by other firms considering an investment in the country (Japanese investment here shot up by some 80 per cent last year).

The West German Government is pressing as forcefully. Señor González recently received a letter from Bonn underlining the damage that failure to award at least part of the contract to Siemens would do to the normally excellent relations between the two countries.

In the face of such conflicting pressures, the Spanish railway authorities backed away from their original October deadline for a final decision. Informed sources suggest that the spoils are likely to be divided between Alsthom and Siemens.

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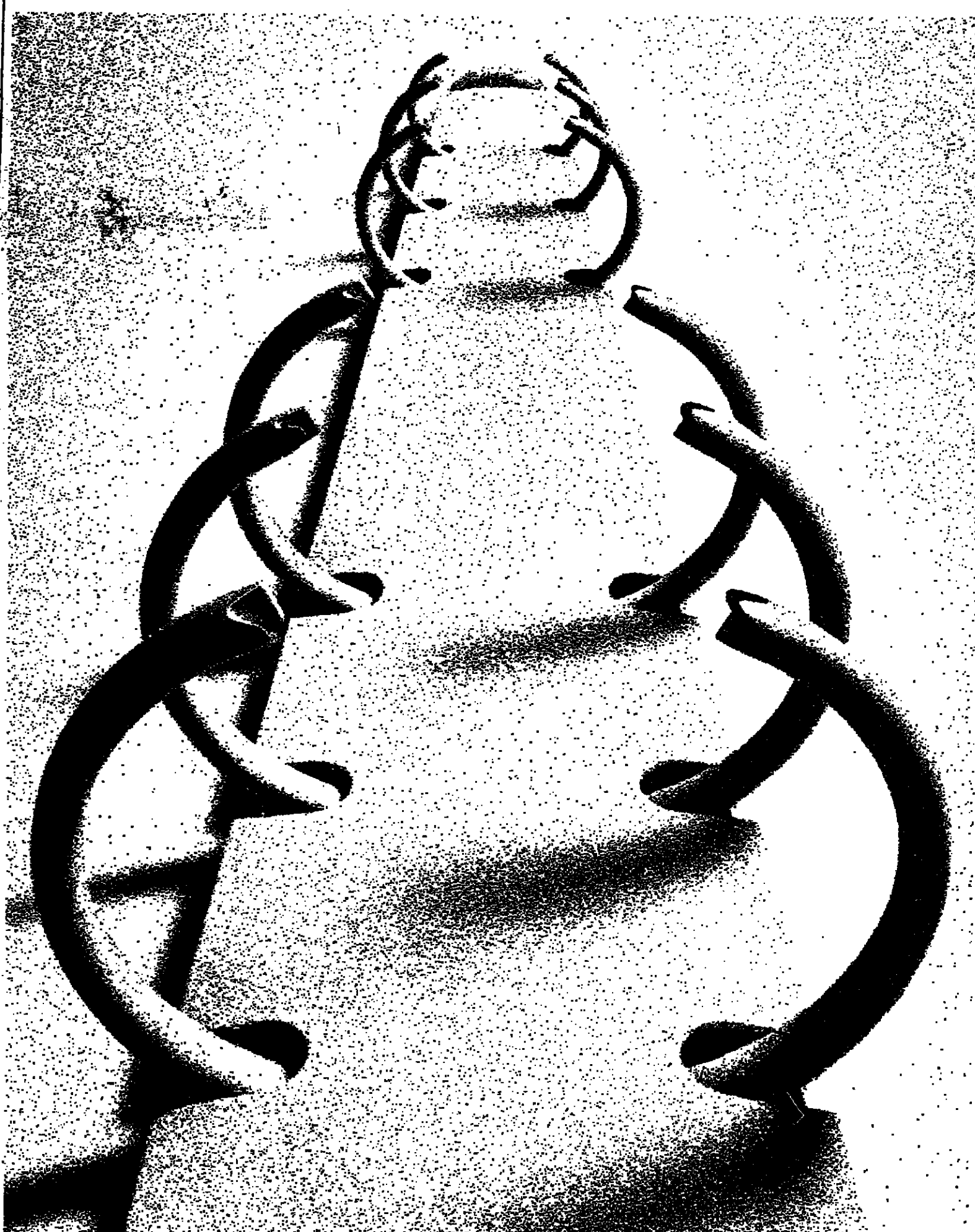
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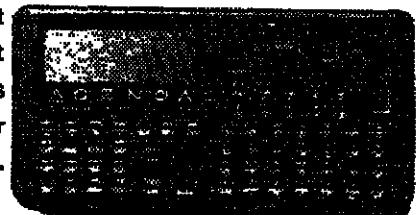
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AGENDA

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 1988

Extracts from the unqualified
audited consolidated profit and loss account for the year ended
30th September 1988.

	1987	1988	INCREASE
	£000	£000	
TURNOVER	8,563	43,028	402%
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	1,314	4,809	266%
PROFIT AFTER TAX	761	2,856	275%
DIVIDEND ON ORDINARY SHARES	41	640	
RETAINED PROFIT FOR THE YEAR	687	2,216	222%
EARNINGS PER SHARE	6.9p	16.1p	133%
DIVIDEND PER SHARE (NET)	1.5p	3.0p	100%

Full Group accounts will be
delivered to the Registrar of Companies in due course.

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of Islamic f

Britain's role
may be limited



kidnap baby dead

retaliates Air hotline

Storm's path

Lovers'...

Cairo treads warily in face of Islamic financial scandal

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

Egypt is embroiled in its biggest financial scandal since the 1952 revolution as the Government tries to regulate Islamic investment companies alleged to have swindled hundreds of millions of pounds from small savers.

The scandal has religious, political and sexual overtones which have made it a talking point throughout the Arab world. Earlier this week the Attorney General banned further publication of some of the spiciest details. These include the alleged involvement of senior officials.

Among the string of allegations published by the opposition press before the ban was imposed were claims that two bosses of one of the investment houses had provided a £2 million loan to a Cairo hospital to cover abortions on women with whom they were associated.

There have been claims of "kickbacks" being paid to journalists and others accused of conniving in the scandal.

Growing anger among small investors, including many who put in their army pensions, has resulted in noisy demonstrations outside the offices of some of the companies and also outside the office of President Mubarak.

Long dormant just below the surface of Egyptian life,

the scandal — which has serious implications for the future stability of the Government — broke to the surface this month when the maverick investment houses were faced with an ultimatum to comply with strict new government regulations or accept liquidation over a two-year period.

More than 100 companies were involved in the government order, possessing between them deposits from the public estimated by Western economic experts at £1.8 billion to £3 billion.

Exact figures are unavailable because of the unorthodox way these mushrooming investment houses have conducted their business.

Much of their popularity accrued from their insistence that they were run on strict Muslim principles, including the non-payment of interest as decreed under Islamic law.

Instead, they have paid out "profits" on deposits averaging 20 per cent a year, as against the 13 per cent offered by Egypt's commercial banks.

Since early in 1987, Western economists had warned that such higher returns would be impossible to maintain, but the authorities appeared reluctant to take action, partly because they realized that the huge amounts of cash already involved meant that the col-

lapse of any one of the four main Islamic companies could spark widespread social unrest (the largest, al-Rayhan is estimated to have more than 150,000 depositors).

"The bosses of these companies were playing crudely on the religious beliefs of the small man, who never seemed concerned about how his capital would be maintained," a Western economist said. "What has become clear is that many were involved in schemes which involved paying off old dividends from the funds of new depositors."

The passing of the November 8 ultimatum, with which many of the companies have been unable to comply because of the haphazard nature of their accounting procedures, has revealed that the slowness of government action may have resulted partly from the benefits which many of its officials received from the companies.

According to *al-Ahali*, the weekly paper of the opposition Progressive Grouping Party, in the last edition published before the Attorney General's intervention: "The list of names of employees and advisers of a single company included two former deputy prime ministers, a former assistant interior minister and a current under secretary."

The paper, which obtained documents relating to the official investigation, reported that annual returns of 40 to 100 per cent were paid by some Islamic companies solely to politicians and officials who invested.

Mr Mahmoud el-Maraghi, chief editor of *al-Ahali*, wrote at the beginning of a five-page exposure of the scandal: "The case involves the biggest process of swindling in Egyptian history. It is swindling that is 'semi-public' and 'semi-supported'."

For days the papers were filled with lurid details of bribes being paid by the companies and of the squandering of investors' cash by many of the principals, one of whom was alleged to have spent the equivalent of £20 million on an extravagant series of weddings over a two-year period.

As the battle to recover the assets to repay investors continues with the introduction of new legislation, one of the main problems involves money from the companies already transferred abroad.

In the case of al-Rayhan, whose assets and funds have been seized by the Government and whose offices have been raided, the figure involved is estimated at more than £250 million.

Lebanon's divided Army marches on



A Muslim unit of the Lebanese Army parading in Muslim west Beirut, left, to mark yesterday's 45th anniversary of Lebanon's independence from France, while at Yarzeh, east of Beirut, a Christian unit holds a separate parade.

Day speeches, underscoring the two-month-old political crisis which threatens the country with formal partition after 13 years of civil war.

"Lebanon is in the throes of collapse," Mr Hoss said in his address, broadcast by several radio stations. "We cannot recover our unity through further dismemberment. If reunion is difficult, partition is impossible."

General Aoun, who heads a three-man interim military Cabinet, attacked Syria and Israel as "occupiers and usurpers" in

an address broadcast on Monday night by radio and television stations.

An estimated 40,000 Syrian troops control 70 per cent of Lebanese territory, including Beirut's Muslim sector, under a 1976 Arab League peacekeeping mandate. Israel controls a six-to-10-mile deep enclave in southern Lebanon.

● SIDON: Israeli jets and helicopter gunships bombed two Palestinian positions in southern Lebanon yesterday, killing one guerrilla and wounding seven, Palestinian sources and witnesses said.

UN peace-keeping

Britain's role may be limited

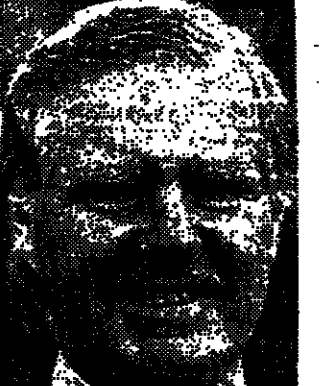
From James Bone, New York

Increased demand for United Nations intervention in trouble spots has led to a stake-up in the organization's top echelons, which could limit British influence in high-profile, peace-making activities.

Aiming to play a more direct role in peace-making, Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary-General, has hived off responsibility for mediation in Afghanistan, Cyprus, the Middle East and other areas from the Office of Special Political Affairs to his own Executive Office.

His intention is "that these activities should in future be handled in that office under his direct, personal supervision", a spokesman said.

The restructuring may have the effect of restricting the



Mr Goulding: Heads office of long-standing influence power of the Office of Special Political Affairs, an area of long-standing British influence in the United Nations system. The office is headed by Mr Marrack Goulding, the Under Secretary-General, a Briton who succeeded his long-serving compatriot Mr Brian Urquhart.

The Office of Special Political Affairs will retain control of the United Nations' rapidly expanding peace-keeping operations. Diplomatic and UN sources said the restructuring was not motivated by desire to marginalize British influence, although they said some personal politics might be involved.

Having gained credibility as a peace-maker for his role in ending the Iran-Iraq war, Señor de Cuéllar is increasingly

in demand as a mediator. Once known for delegating his authority, he has begun to conduct business in a more hands-on manner recently.

This week he will host two days of peace talks on Cyprus attended by President Vassiliou of Cyprus and Mr Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish Cypriot leader. Next week, he will hold separate talks on the conflict in the Western Sahara with representatives from Morocco and the Polisario Front.

The UN is also coming under pressure from the Soviet Union and the Afghan Government to sponsor talks on Afghanistan. Earlier this month, the UN General Assembly gave the Secretary-General a mandate to play a more direct role in resolving the conflict. His Special Representative on Afghanistan, Señor Diego Cordovez, has been less active since he became the Ecuadorian Foreign Minister and resigned as a UN Under Secretary-General in August.

And, with the Palestine Liberation Organization accepting key UN resolutions on the Middle East at its recent meeting in Algiers, progress may now be possible towards an international conference on Arab-Israeli conflict.

A Western diplomat said: "With the prospect of the Namibia force, and Iran-Iraq, the peace-keeping force has become just so enormous that it is not possible for one Under Secretary-General to organize. I don't think there is any diminution of Mr Goulding's role."

● GOTHENBURG: The UN peace-keeping forces, awarded the Nobel Peace Prize this year, need more money, according to Nordic defence ministers (Reuters reports).

After a meeting on Monday, the ministers from Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Iceland called for all UN member states to accept financial responsibility.

Señor de Cuéllar said last week that fewer than half of the 159 member states had fully paid their UN contributions. Peace-keeping arrears were \$365.1 million (£215 million).

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Kidnap baby dead

Eslohe, West Germany (AP) — Patrick Padberg, the kidnapped 15-month-old son of a millionaire, was found dead yesterday, 10 days after a violent break-in at his parents' house, police said. The boy's grandmother was strangled in the attempted robbery at the home of Christian Padberg, a building merchant. Police said that a suspect had been arrested in the case, in which a ransom of several million marks was demanded.

Iran retaliates

Nicosia (Reuters) — Two Turkish diplomats have been ordered to leave Iran in retaliation for the expulsion of two Iranian envoys from Turkey and the detention there of an Iranian couple, the *Tehran Times* said.

Wage boost

Tokyo (Reuters) — A wage rise for Japan's armed forces lifted defence spending further beyond the controversial 1 per cent of GNP limit breached last year, to 1.023 per cent.

Chiefs meet

Suva (Reuters) — A meeting of 270 Fijian chiefs has accepted in principle a new constitution giving indigenous Fijians political domination, the aim of two coups last year.

Air hotline

Abu Dhabi (Reuters) — An airport hotline between Bandar Abbas, in Iran, and Dubai is to be installed following the shooting down in July of an Iranian Airbus by the US Navy in which 290 people were killed.

Storm's path

Miami (AP) — The tropical storm Keith was expected to cross the Florida coast on Friday. It has forced the evacuation of 2,500 people in Cuba's Pinar del Rio province.

Lovers' blast

Peking (Reuters) — Two Chinese lovers blew themselves up with a bomb on the Great Wall and seriously injured a New Zealand woman.

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Continued on page 34

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SPECTRUM

Lord Gowrie has claimed that Sotheby's gave the nation a real chance to buy Hereford Cathedral's medieval map. Tony Dawe investigates

The man who sold the world?

Lord Gowrie, the chairman of Sotheby's and a former Arts Minister, was unequivocal when announcing Hereford Cathedral's decision to sell its precious 13th-century map of the world, the Mappa Mundi, last week. "I have been trying to arrange a private treaty sale to the nation of the map for a year," he said last Wednesday. "I am sorry that national institutions have not felt able to buy this great map."

Yesterday, after a week in which the Government, the British Library and the National Heritage Memorial Fund have all claimed that they were unaware that the Mappa Mundi was for sale until very recently, he agreed that his remarks may have been misleading. "What I meant was that I had been trying for a year to make people aware that the cathedral was in desperate need of money and might have to sell its treasures to raise the necessary sum."

It is also clear that the dean and chapter of Hereford Cathedral believed that any deal with the nation would raise only about £2 million while an auction of the map alone in the strong international market might raise the £7 million they require to clear their debts and safeguard the cathedral's future.

Experts insist that the 64 in by 54 in map, with Jerusalem at its centre and Britain on its fringes, must remain in this country. Richard Luce, the Arts minister, clearly feels the same but is reluctant to promise money which might open the floodgates for many similar claims.

The real row, however, is whether Lord Gowrie ever gave the nation a proper chance to buy it. His critics say he did not. Lord Gowrie was appointed chairman of Sotheby's last year, two years after he had resigned as Arts minister, claiming that his £33,260 salary was too small to support his normal lifestyle. His post at Sotheby's led to gossip that he was a gamekeeper turned poacher.

Sotheby's was first consulted by the dean and chapter of Hereford Cathedral in February 1986, when it was asked to value all the cathedral's treasures. Neither side will reveal the result but it is

certain that Hereford's greatest asset, the medieval chained library, is almost priceless. The Mappa Mundi itself was valued in 1986 at somewhere between £1 and £2 million.

The dean also called in the accountants Peat, Marwick, McLintock, which advised that the cathedral needed to find £7 million to solve its financial problems. Last summer, the dean and chapter turned to Lord Gowrie and Sotheby's to raise the money.

In his announcement last week, Lord Gowrie gave the impression that it was at this point that he had begun to try to arrange a private sale of the Mappa Mundi to the nation. Yesterday he told a different story. "I didn't go around saying the map is up for grabs, any offers. I did say that Hereford was in bad trouble and the map could go to private treaty if they could not raise the money any other way."

"I have six diary entries of meetings with the British Library and the Office of Arts and Libraries (Luce's 'ministry')." He declined to provide *The Times* with the exact dates of his meetings.

Spokesmen for both these bodies deny that the question of the nation buying the map was ever discussed. At the Office of Arts and Libraries, one of Luce's aides said: "Lord Gowrie came in during September last year to mention a 'shopping list' of historic things which might be coming up for sale around the country. He mentioned the chained library and the map and that Hereford Cathedral had financial problems and might have to consider selling."

A spokesman for the British Library said: "At no stage did the cathedral mention putting the map up for sale or offering it to the nation by private treaty... Our discussions centred on a possible deal involving the chained library."

Any deal providing for the nation to acquire part of the chained library or even the Mappa Mundi would almost certainly involve the National Heritage Memorial Fund, set up by the Government to assist in acquiring land, buildings or objects of outstanding historic interest. "The Mappa Mundi is as much down our street as anything could be," Lord Charteris, the fund's chairman said yesterday.

On September 22 last year,

Lord Charteris met Lord Gowrie at Eton College, where he is the provost. "Lord Gowrie did mention the Mappa Mundi to me but only as a throw-away line. He said that if all else failed, the cathedral might have to sell the map."

On February 11, Lord Charteris visited the dean, but their conversation concentrated on the chained library. "The Mappa Mundi was not, repeat not, mentioned," Lord Charteris said.

According to Lord Gowrie, by September it had become clear to both him and the dean of Hereford that any deal on the future of the chained library or the sale of the Mappa Mundi by private treaty would leave the cathedral considerably short of £7 million.

"Further research and the

strength of the international art market led us to advise the dean and chapter that all their problems could be solved by the sale of the map."

"We decided we would announce this on December 5 or 6, which would give me time to clear the decks and prepare people for it. A newspaper leak on November 16 forced us to bring forward the announcement but I telephoned Mr Luce and Lord Quinton (chairman of the British Library) first."

The controversy has failed to shake Lord Gowrie's confidence. "I don't know why people are bothering with who said what to whom and when over this issue. It is far more urgent to consider what is to be the Government's attitude towards historic objects which are not funded by the museum system."



Lord Gowrie: "I don't know why people are bothering with who said what to whom and when over this issue"

Politics: the faxes of life

The news that documents that have been faxed will eventually fade away has come as a terrible shock to the Social and Liberal Democratic Party, whose new leader, a Mr Paddy Ashdown, was transmitted to them by fax from Yeovil late last July.

"When he first arrived," complained one leading member, "he appeared clear and charismatic, with tough new lines. But now he seems to be fading fast, and sadly none of us can now remember what his original message was."

However, some skilled experts claim to have deciphered a message from Mr Ashdown over the last few days. He has reportedly called on his fellow members to "comment speedily, pithily and sensibly on the unfolding stories of the moment". This is in line with his own pithy comments delivered in parliament during the past five years. They include:

"Further evidence of the damage sustained by the party from fading faxes has come from the rapid disintegration of their own name. As recently as August, they had the full compliment of four letters - SDLP - but now they have been reduced to the single letter 'D'. Senior figures are worried that under Mr ...ay sh...s leadership they will be further reduced to: .."

The recent history of the Royal Variety Show has been fraught with controversy: some say that it is too old hat, others that it is vulgarly pitched towards the lowest common denominator. The latter group cites the inclusion in 1986 of Miss Sarah Ferguson in the role of Duchess of York, preceded the year before by the spectacle of her future husband "Andy"



CRAIG BROWN

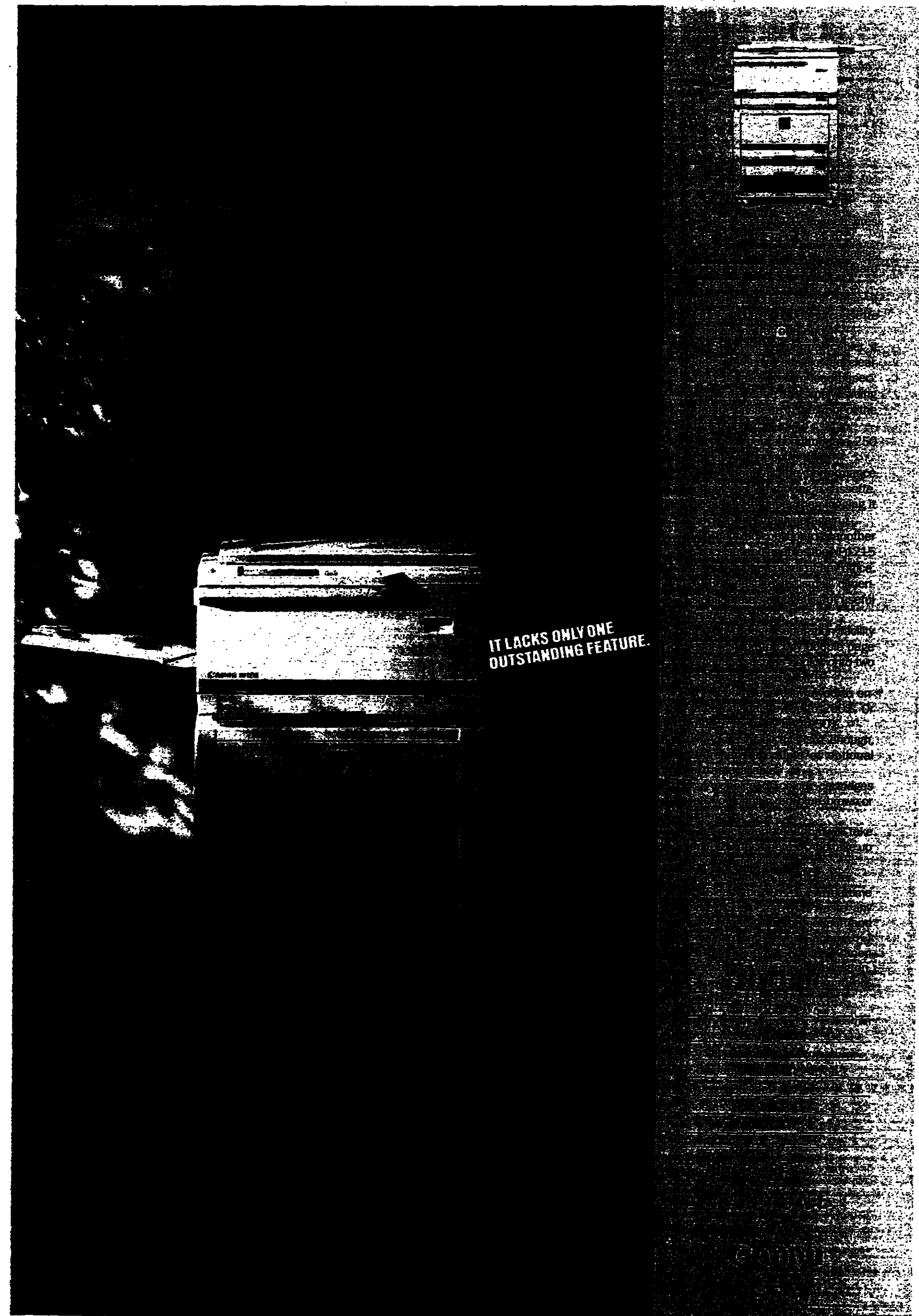
spraying cameramen with paint. Is it really right, they ask, that the dignity and radiance of the cast of *Neighbours* should be compromised by being subjected to this type of "entertainment"?

In past years, the more controversial items have been said to have caused "great distress" to performers of the calibre of Mr Bruce Forsyth and Mr James Tarbuck. Critics of the show point to a catalogue of vulgarity stretching back over years, including in 1987 it's a Royal Knockout in which the Younger Royals troupe, dressed as pantomime characters, pushed each other into a splash-pool causing "deep embarrassment" to many celebrity observers.

After numerous outbursts, the Duke of Edinburgh, the seasoned trouper best known to the general public for the saltiness of his language, has had his role much reduced, while controversial newcomer Major Ron, once set for a starring role, has been virtually written out.

Critics also complain that the show has become tiresome and over-long. When the show involved the monarch and immediate family it was succinct and compelling, but now that so many minor acts have been brought on - among them the bouffant-haired commercial duo Lichfield and Linley, a variety of busy walk-ons and rather too many child performers - it has become straggling and incoherent.

"Bad jokes, strident opinions, fruity 'japes' and expensive costumes are no substitute for the real thing," argues a leading critic. "I trust that in years to come the whole show will be vastly scaled down."



IT LACKS ONLY ONE OUTSTANDING FEATURE.

TIMES DIARY

LORD ST JOHN
OF FAWSFLEY

I am beginning to know what a troglodyte feels like, even though it is a very grand cave, the crypt of St Paul's no less, in which I have been lurking on and off for the past six months. On Monday I once again introduced the Lord Mayor — a new one this time, Sir Christopher Collett — to open the third Paternoster Square exhibition this year. Sir Philip Dowson's scheme, which reigned — like Queen Victoria — alone, has developed a clear architectural language, which might be called contemporary classicism. It should be more comprehensible to the public than his abstract, conceptual, master plan, which was contrasted last time with John Simpson's more 18th century classical, worked-up design.

In truth, despite all the brouhaha and the clash between the present day Goths of classicism and the modernist and post-modernist Vandals, the two schemes have much in common. Both seek to create a street pattern bearing some resemblance to its historic predecessors — both separate pedestrians on ground level from vehicles relegated to the *sous sol*. Both provide a large open space west of the cathedral to accommodate processions.

A major point of controversy is likely to be the proposal to provide a further obstacle to the view from Ludgate Circus, at present marked by the dread Juxon House. Bishop Juxon, who comforted Charles I on the scaffold and received his final word, "Remember", deserves a better memorial than this, but perhaps it was divine punishment for the bishop's connection with the slave trade — you can even see two little blackamoors in his coat of arms.

Personally, I am astonished at the suggestion of setting up a further jutting edifice to mar a view which would extend up to Chesham. I suspect my views may be shared by those in high places, possibly by the Lord Mayor and the Dean. Sir Philip has been discreetly coy in his model: the proposed obstructive baptistry has been omitted and replaced by two removable trees. If Paris was worth a mass, Paternoster Square might be worth a baptistry.

The British Museum, although first in dignity in the gallery world, has tended to be socially somewhat off the map, while the Tate, the Victoria and Albert, the National and the Portrait Gallery have been a whirlpool of receptions and parties. But under the leadership of its dedicated chairman, Lord Windlesham, and its intrepid director, Sir David Wilson, this was put to rights on Wednesday, when for the first time the sovereign dined within its walls — to be precise, in the Duveen Gallery — surrounded by the Elgin marbles and seven hundred glitterati.

Before dinner Her Majesty, with the Duke of Edinburgh, visited a splendid exhibition of treasures saved for the nation by Lord Charteris, chairman of the National Heritage Fund, who celebrated his 75th birthday at Eton on Monday. And what a splendid birthday present it would be for him and for us if he could save the Mappa Mundi for the country to which it of right belongs. *Si monumentum requiris circumspecte*.

Trusteeship of the British Museum has been considered a signal honour since its foundation in 1753, and the most recent illustrious name to be added is that of Sir Claus Moser, Warden of Wadham. Certainly Mr Disraeli, who became a trustee in 1863, regarded it as the brightest jewel in his diadem, exceeded only by the premiership itself.

There is unfortunately a snag for the weekend trekking classes — the trustees invariably meet on Saturday each month. The reason for this purgatorial trysting time is unclear, but the best explanation on offer is that the Archbishop of Canterbury was virtually chairman ex officio for many years and needed to be in London on Sundays to conduct services.

Canterbury itself was a neglected benefice while the incumbents lived in it, theologically and politically in the capital. All that has now changed, but we are a profoundly conservative people, and when the issue came up for discussion in 1963 the sabbatarians carried the day.

BARRY FANTONI



'You know, I can remember exactly where I was when I was first asked where I was when I heard Kennedy had been assassinated'

One of the great events of the British calendar, run close for glamour and pageantry only by Trooping the Colour, is the State Opening of Parliament by the Queen which took place yesterday.

The ambassadors and the peeresses are all togged up and have a special place in the chamber to which to go. But where do their lordships get their robes, which they don only once a year? Some hereditary peers have family heirlooms, but apart from a balloted allocation from the House's own small stock the rest would have to resort to hire for their wardrobe.

The peers' friend is not the legendary Moss Bros but Ede and Ravenscroft of legal fame. When I applied I was told they had run out of barons' raiment but they had one earl's robe left. Would that do? Such was my consternation that they fished about in the attic and kitted me out suitably. In this case above all fine feathers would not have made a fine bird.

The action taken by Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, to introduce a statutory framework for MI5 was inevitable. Pressure had been growing from many sides to make the security service more accountable, or at least to define their *modus operandi* more clearly, to allay suspicion in the public mind, after the *Spycatcher* affair, that the organization had a free rein to commit any deed in the name of "national security".

Neither MI5 nor MI6, the Secret Intelligence Service, are established by statute. They are creatures of the prerogative. They have never been subject to scrutiny by the courts and they have no defined status. The only public examination of MI5 was in 1965 by Lord Denning, then Master of the Rolls, after the Profumo affair.

In his report Lord Denning, said: "Their operations are to be used for one purpose, and one purpose only, the defence of the realm. They are not to be used so as to pry into one man's private conduct, or business affairs, or even his political opinions, except in so far as they are subversive, that is they would contemplate the overthrow of the Government by unlawful

means." Lord Denning's judgment was really a repetition of the famous directive issued by a former Home Secretary, Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, on September 24, 1952 which has acted as the governing instrument for MI5's activities to this day. But the all-embracing definition of defence of the realm against internal and external dangers, whether from espionage or subversion, provides unlimited scope for an organization that does not have to account for any of its actions before Parliament.

The director-general of MI5 is responsible to the Home Secretary but the security service is not part of the Home Office. Nor is it part of government. It is to a large extent a self-contained and substantially autonomous organization. It is set apart from society and is bound by vows of secrecy. This comparative isolation makes it all the more

important that its members should be subject to a clearly defined set of boundaries within which they know they can operate. Times have also changed. The "threat from within" today comes not so much from domestic subversion — the Angry Brigade disappeared 15 years ago and the impact of the British Communist Party has diminished significantly — but from terrorism. MI5's resources, an estimated staff of 2,000 on a budget of about £200 million, need to be focused on counter-terrorist operations rather than on surveillance and infiltration of obscure, left-wing organizations.

Before he retired as director-general (DG) in 1985 Sir John Jones reorganized F Branch (domestic subversion) so that it could concentrate more resources on combating terrorism.

Previously terrorism had been the domain of Special Branch and Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch. As a veteran F Branch man, Patrick Walker, the present DG, is more aware than anyone of the changing scale of the threat posed by terrorist activities. With limited manpower and increasing demands for resources from K Branch, responsible for Countering Soviet and other Warsaw Pact intelligence, he has to find the right balance in allocating the money available. Walker's predecessor, the former diplomat Sir Antony Duff, who retired earlier this year, is thought to have believed firmly that in order to restore confidence the public should have a greater awareness of MI5's functions. Sir Antony, who took over from Sir John Jones after the Michael Betanczy case — the middle-ranking MI5 officer who

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Although it is the director-general of MI5 who makes his own interpretation of subversion, he has a responsibility to reflect the changing threat to society. It is that responsibility which is now to be enshrined in a legal framework.

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Michael Evans on the need for formal rules for the Security Service

How MI5's role changed

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Conor Cruise O'Brien

Arafat's declining power



exists at all, but the claim to annex the capital of Israel is explicit. And Israelis will never voluntarily give up Jerusalem.

So, whatever things may be "built" on the Algiers declaration, peace between Israel and the Palestinians cannot be one.

The most interesting questions raised by the Algiers declaration are those concerning the evolving relationship between the Palestinians-in-exile — whose leaders drafted the declaration — and the Palestinians in the Occupied Territories, whose leaders on the spot are the leaders of the *intifada*, the Palestinian uprising which has now been going on for almost a year.

In the nature of things, the leaders of the uprising, those who are now bearing the heat and burden of the day, are likely to have more prestige and authority among the population of the territories than the exiled leadership can have. Reports from the territories, on the day when the news reached them that they now have a Palestinian state of their very own, suggest that the enthusiasm generated by

the news was less than overwhelming — "a new leaflet by the underground leaders of the uprising called on Palestinians to celebrate at 4 pm on November 15, but the call went largely unheeded."

Possibly the reason why it went unheeded was that the leaders of the uprising did not personally exert themselves to get out their following. One thing they have amply proved is their capacity to stage large-scale demonstrations, when they want to. So apparently they didn't want to, when the occasion was this major declaration of the leadership in exile. They accept the new state as a symbol. But the realities on the spot are the *intifada* and the leadership of the *intifada*.

In the years before the *intifada*, loyalty to the PLO leadership in exile was important to the self-respect of the Palestinians. The watchword in those years was *sumud*, meaning "steadfastness". *Sumud* implied rejection of the Israeli occupation and commitment to "the PLO". But the commitment was of a rather paradoxical character, since it was based on rejection of the role in which the PLO leadership had originally tried to cast the population of the territories. Their role was a revolutionary one.

In the month immediately following the Israeli occupation of the territories, in 1967, Arafat vowed to make the territories into "a new Vietnam" and toured them on his motorbike with that end in view. He failed. The population refused to permit the installation of armed PLO contingents. Instead they declared their loyalty to the leadership in exile. Arafat became important as the external symbol of the internal defiance of the Palestinians of the occupied territories.

When *sumud* moved into *intifada*, at the beginning of this year, the need for Arafat as symbol sharply declined. The powerful symbol now became the Palestinian himself, or herself, resisting occupation. This shift might, in certain circumstances, have a positive bearing on the prospects of peace in the area. Suppose the *intifada* becomes protracted, and Israel comes to wish — as many Israelis already do — to shed the burden of having to police densely populated Arab territories? In short, Israel comes round to the position held at present by Shimon Peres and the Labour alignment. That means being prepared to give up some, but not all, of the territory occupied in 1967.

Now "the PLO" — meaning the leadership-in-exile — could never agree to anything like that. But the Palestinians on the spot might be very interested in such a deal, if it were offered to them. For the population of these territories, it would mean relief from the massive burdens of occupation and the *intifada*. For the leadership, it would mean the prospect of political power in a state of their own, and for themselves, not for the exiles. These solid realities might well outweigh the dream of a liberated Jerusalem, and the lamentations of the leaders of

the fictional Palestinian state, created in Algiers last week.

There is a relevant precedent in modern Irish history. In the Irish rebellion of 1919-21, the rebels had a symbolic leader, outside the country, and a leader on the spot, subordinate in theory to the symbolic leader. The symbolic leader was Eamon de Valera, president of the "Irish Republic" (at that time a notional entity, like "the Palestinian state").

De Valera, the senior survivor of the 1916 rising, spent 1919-21 in America, raising funds for the rebellion, when in 1921 the British offered a deal, conceding to the rebels most, though not all, of the territory they claimed. Michael Collins accepted. De Valera threw his symbolic weight on the side of those who rejected the Anglo-Irish treaty. The people of the territory evacuated by the British under the treaty (now the Republic of Ireland) approved the treaty in a general election. A brief civil war followed which was won by the pro-treaty forces.

Developments in territories evacuated by Israel would be likely to be similar, at least to the extent that it would be the leadership on the spot, not the symbolic leadership, which would have the upper hand.

Prospects of "territory for peace" are still remote, and the Algiers declaration brings them no nearer. But the *intifada* itself, as it develops, might possibly bring such prospects nearer — if it both induces war weariness in Israel and throws up a leadership which is sufficiently pragmatic then to negotiate seriously with the Israelis.

One of Peres's handicaps, in relation to "territory for peace" during the recent elections, was that he could not point, with any plausibility, to people on the other side who might be able to deliver some peace, in exchange for some territory. It may be that those people will eventually be found, among those who are at present causing most trouble for Israel.

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Commentary • ROBIN OAKLEY

A packed Parliament

Once, when Kenneth Baker was the back-bencher chosen to respond to the Queen's Speech, he was warned that back-benchers must tread "the narrow line between sycophancy and rebellion".

His Conservative colleague, David Madel, ruminated yesterday that governments too should learn to tread a narrow line — "the one between endless upheaval and do-nothingism". But this is not a do-nothing government. Those 1979 promises of better but less legislation are a distant memory, especially after the 44 measures in the 18-month session just concluded. The 16 Bills announced yesterday will continue the almost Marxist ferment of activity favoured by Mrs Thatcher.

Governments are creatures of their history. In 1979-83, ministers later realized, the Conservatives were too slow to get into gear. In 1983-87 they wasted the first session after coasting back to power on a bland manifesto. They also made the mistake of trying to reform Sunday trading too near the end of a Parliament, with Tory MPs in marginal seats rebelling after being scared witless by the Sabbath lobbyists.

This time around, therefore, they have packed all the controversial measures in an extraordinarily radical manifesto into the early stages of the Parliament. A government seeking an unprecedented fourth term in 1991 will not want to be tackling major privatizations in the election run-up, especially when opinion polls are indicating strong opposition to privatization of both water and electricity, the two main items in yesterday's Speech.

But there will be some controversial items to be slipped in quickly next year. There is no Bill in this programme carrying through wide-scale reforms of broadcasting. The Home Office, with three important Bills already, could scarcely be given a fourth and the plans are not ready yet. Then there is the Government's promise to introduce a Bill on embryo research, with alternative clauses either sanctioning or forbidding experimentation. It is six years since the Warnock Committee was set up, and four since it reported.

The other surprising omission, given the Prime Minister's recent speeches, is any specifically "green" Bill. That, it seems, was virtually the only query raised when the Cabinet took just one hour at its meeting last week to sanction the Queen's Speech. But there is a large green chunk in the water privatization Bill, which will set up the new National Rivers Authority with wide powers to strengthen environmental protection.

Green issues are all the vogue, in the way that the inner cities were 18 months ago after Mrs Thatcher's election night exhortation to her ministers to do something about them. But 18 months is an aeon in politics and one might inquire: whatever did happen to the inner cities? The ministerial answer is that the programmes have been set up and it is now a matter of steady implementation.

The inner cities gave a coherence to the package in the last Queen's Speech. There was the poll tax, supposedly to cut the rate burden and increase job opportunities as firms flocked back. There was the Housing Bill to break up monolithic council housing estates, and the Education Reform Bill to improve opportunities.

This time the programme splits into further privatization measures, improving life for business with new merger laws and the easing of restrictions on work by women and young people, and the combating of terrorism and crime with the new Prevention of Terrorism Bill, the Bill compelling football clubs to introduce membership cards and the forced declaration against violence by local government candidates in Northern Ireland. Apart from that there is social change, with the new family care measures following the Cleveland child abuse affair and the social security measures to ensure that those drawing unemployment benefit are actively seeking work.

It will be an intriguing session in personality terms. Pushing through the two vital privatization measures, Cecil Parkinson and Nicholas Ridley will both be seeking to establish their credentials as potential replacements for Nigel Lawson when he leaves the Treasury. Both face formidable opponents, Parkinson in Tony Blair, a new member of the Shadow Cabinet, and Ridley in Dr John Cunningham, seeking to hold off the new wave of Labour pretenders like Blair and Gordon Brown in his role as the Opposition's "Quality of Life" spokesman.

It is Labour's chance to develop a role as the consumer's champion. Expect another renaissance for Roy Hattersley as he seeks to make stick the charge that this is an authoritarian government careless of personal liberties.

On the Government side two ministers on the fringe of the Cabinet have their big chance. John Patten will be taking through the committee stages of the M15 and Secrets Bills in support of the Home Secretary, Douglas Hurd. And Michael Howard is burdened with pushing through the water privatization with Ridley. Since Howard has already handled the massively complicated Financial Services Act and the community charge legislation he is surely entitled to expect a Cabinet place at the end of this session unless water proves a disaster.

But where are the flashpoints? Reforming Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act and putting M15 on to a statutory basis will have little effect on the popular vote. But that will not stop them preoccupying the chattering classes. MPs will argue for the inclusion of a public interest defence on secrets reform and for parliamentary scrutiny, rather than a tribunal, for M15.

There will be ructions among libertarian Tories as well as on the Labour side over compulsory football club membership. Many MPs believe it will ruin the clubs and infringe personal liberties.

The privatization measures will weary Tories and opponents with an endless series of government amendments as complications are ironed out. But there are no obvious minefields here for the Tory whips as there were, with the poll tax. For the fireworks in this session we have to look less to the legislative programme than to the progress of the economy and the Health Service reforms to be outlined in a White Paper early next year. Between now and next July it is the Chancellor whom we will see most frequently on front pages.

even if she retains the old too standard of chastity her mind too often becomes poisoned, her ideals recede, she accepts the inferior outlook on life, and when she marries the standard of her relationship to her husband, home and children is not high.

"I have seen some of these girls after a few years of society life aged by ten years, and already, before the age of twenty as worn out and more-tired as if they were forty. The hectic life of continual excitement, the absence of all repose, all time for meditation, the perpetual fragility, the cigarette smoking, irregular and unhealthy meals — no wonder these girls become the prey of disease."

"Many people find that there is a greater nerve strain involved in keeping up a conversation of small talk than in discussing a serious topic or in the more connected conversation of old intimate friends. These society girls have their brains and mental equipment adjusted to the level of scrappy exclamations early in life and it spoils their subsequent development and their capacity to reach a better stage of intellectual growth."

"Society life is responsible for deficient sleep and consequent deterioration of the entire nervous system. It encourages the pernicious habit of the too-frequent cigarette, it encourages the girls to take cocktails and whiskies-and-sodas, which ruin their digestions, impair their livers, and upset the balance of the nervous system, and it encourages them to take rich foods which upset the rhythm of the body."

"The ill-health of the modern society girls is, in a measure, the fault of their parents, who have in their hands to postpone the downfall of our modern civilization, since civilization itself has its foundation on these individuals who possess the virtues of stability, high purpose, and unselfishness."

"Nowadays," she said, "the girl dispenses with a chaperone and

NOV 23

ON THIS DAY

1922

Dr Agnes Savill, a Glaswegian doctor, one of whose earliest appointments was medical officer to Tooty workhouse, became an expert on dermatology and on the use of electricity in the treatment of women's diseases, having spent four war years as head of the electro-therapeutic department of the Scottish Women's Department in France.

WOMEN WHO ARE WORN OUT AT 20

Dr Agnes Savill delivered a lecture on "The Dangers of Society to Health" at the Institute of Hygiene last evening. She said that the development of society's communities was found in the earliest stages of human society, and this gathering together of families to share a common life had many advantages, provided the individuals concerned were of a high grade and had a sound organization. But such communities had many dangers, such as the liability of infectious diseases to spread rapidly and the multiplication of the unfit. Other dangers of civilization were eye-strain, smoke, dust and fog, while noise was a serious society danger, leading to irritability, fatigue and lack of sleep.

Dealing with the society life of girls, Dr Savill said that a girl who left school for business life might not have an excessive amount of daily work, but she usually had to make exhausting journeys to get to it. The girl who went to a university was liable to over-study, or to study all day and to indulge in social functions till late at night, while the girl who could command the sources of her parents' wealth left school for a life of continual excitement which resulted in mental and physical deterioration.

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even if she retains the old too standard of chastity her mind too often becomes poisoned, her ideals recede, she accepts the inferior outlook on life, and when she marries the standard of her relationship to her husband, home and children is not high.

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1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

POWER AND WATER

In weight and complexity the legislative programme of 16 Bills announced yesterday in the Queen's Speech makes demands on Parliament which are equivalent to some of the heavier programmes brought forward earlier during Mrs Thatcher's prime ministership. On the face of things, however, the programme seems unlikely to unleash the bitterest kind of controversy the Government has encountered in the past.

Yet, although there is nothing comparable to the community charge, rate-capping, trade union reform and the last education Bill, the measures for privatizing water and electricity could bring the Government into controversy deeper than now seems apparent. Certainly water privatization (the principle of which worries a number of Conservative MPs) is likely to prove more deeply controversial to the public than have the previous measures for disposing of state-owned industries and utilities to the private sector.

It has been a notable fact of this Government's history that the public has been on the Government's side over privatization. That is why the Labour Party has had to bowdlerize its own attachment to state ownership.

It is clearly accepted that there is no reason for the State to manage productive or service industries, particularly where a prospect of competition is lacking in the public sector. Water is, however, different. It is a unique and basic natural resource; there can be no competition for the water companies within their areas.

They will have imposed upon them standards of water quality which could be regarded as conflicting with the profit motive, which is rightly the driving force in private enterprise. It is, therefore, arguable either that corners will have to be cut or that the required standards can be met only by putting up prices to the consumer, perhaps very sharply.

There is also the question of how attractive water privatization can be made for investors, bearing in mind the heavy investment now needed in the infrastructure, particularly on the operation of the antiquated sewerage system. Likewise there are the seeds of a conflict of interest between the need for clean beaches and economical sewage disposal.

To these arguments the Government replies that the Bill will contain regulations on water quality for the first time and that only by privatization can the necessary capital be raised. Indeed, ministers make a point of presenting this as an environmental Bill in a programme which, they are aware, can be

criticized for having nothing specific in it to implement the Prime Minister's new endorsement of Tory "green" politics.

It is, however, less than satisfactory to base the case for water privatization on its environmental and quality potential, quite apart from the fact that the Bill will be under attack from environmentalists because of the commercial pressures on rural landscape owned by the water authorities. If the quality of water seriously needs improvement, that could also be done (and the consumer could still pay) with water as a nationally-owned utility.

Therefore, the case for water privatization that the Government has to make is that it is in the interests of efficiency and economy of production. That will not be as easy a case as in previous privatizations.

The economic case for electricity privatization will be easier to make, though the Bill will be highly complicated and the prospect of price rises will colour public attitudes. The nuclear aspect will also loom large in the argument.

For the rest, the Government's legislation is likely to command broad public support, from the Bill to deal with the protection of children and families to the measures against terrorism in Northern Ireland. In any parliament, however, the battle is not only for the passage and amendment of the Government's legislation, but for the public ear and mind. The voters' memory of the performance of the rival parties throughout a parliament is an important and sometimes decisive influence on the outcome of a general election.

Far more decisive than water privatization for the Government's credibility will be the economy. Yesterday Mrs Thatcher once again pledged herself to bring down inflation and public spending and to promote enterprise. As inflation now edges up again, the dominant political question is, first, whether Mr Nigel Lawson is right in his prediction that inflation will peak in the first half of next year and, second, whether it can be contained without a level of interest rates damaging to real growth.

On this, as with its legislation, the Government now faces a stronger Opposition Frontbench. Even Mr Kinnock seemed to show greater confidence in his speech yesterday. That, however, from the Government's, as well as the public's, point of view is a benefit, not a handicap. A government that is not adequately tested by the parliamentary Opposition is one which does not see the dangers ahead or understand the public's thinking.

SECURE BY LAW

The doctrines governing the Security Service have long needed reform. Following the Queen's Speech, details are expected to emerge today about how the Home Secretary proposes to put M15 upon a legal basis, to give individuals the opportunity to question its activities, and to improve the organization's effectiveness.

They are unlikely to calm all concerns caused by the *Spycatcher*, Massiter, and Bettaney affairs. But the Government's intentions, if overdue, are welcome.

For 36 years the informal Maxwell Fyfe Directive has been the official M15 bible. The world which it addressed in 1952 has long since changed. Even if the directive was suitable in the age of single-minded defence against Soviet subversion, it was unsuited to the anti-terrorism that has become the growing M15 role.

In the fifties M15 could act more or less independently. Now it needs detailed liaison between different parts of Whitehall. Its work is against a numerous enemy partly disguised amongst the law-abiding civilian population. It cannot work best in a legal half-darkness. The directive is no longer enough.

Light has, in any case, already begun to pour into the security picture, not always from desirable quarters. Over the past few years an increasing amount of detail about the work of both secret services has emerged into public view, brought there by legitimate inquiry, deliberate disinformation, and the more relaxed official attitude to these matters enforced by the tattered reputation of the Official Secrets Act.

Many thousands of words were most recently devoted to the internal struggles inside the Security Service over the identification or misidentification of a Soviet agent. The low point of this unofficial post-war history of the Security Service arrived with the publication of Mr Peter Wright's *Spycatcher*.

Small wonder that some influential figures dealing with secret work came to believe that a new basis for M15 was required. This new

foundation is of two pieces of legislation which will apparently be piloted through the House of Commons together. The first will clarify the Security Service's powers and establish a cautious oversight mechanism which will fall short of the call for monitoring by elected representatives. The second is the revision of the Official Secrets Act which at this date promises not only to be more restrictive than its predecessor but also omits any kind of "public interest" defence as a protection for an official who releases information as a last resort.

The oversight machinery is to be outlined by the Home Secretary today and is likely to be based on the procedure used in respect of telephone-tapping. This makes it probable that such a tribunal would be composed of judges, who would act as the receivers of external complaints. The present Security Service internal "ombudsman" would continue to handle the anxieties of insiders.

The quality of this scheme depends almost entirely on how the tribunal would operate in detail and, above all, whether it would be in a position to release enough information for its judgements to carry credibility. The Government should encourage the greatest possible openness.

If the net effect of the new Act and the redefined M15 powers is to insulate the Security Service from public inspection or accountability of any kind, it will be a step backwards. In the end, that will breed and nurture the germs which infect integrity.

In an institution charged with such massive tasks, sooner or later something will go wrong. If the only guarantees are internal discipline and personal honesty, who will know how or why, or even if it went wrong at all?

Whatever systems for accountability are erected, the best guarantee that a security service is fulfilling its charter lies in its employees. That does not mean there should be no public control at all applying to one of the most critical defence agencies of the realm — and M15 should recognize that.

THE HERETIC OF MOSCOW

East Germany and the Soviet Union are engaged in what Moscow has termed a "misunderstanding" over the refusal of the East German authorities to distribute an official Soviet publication. Minor in itself, the dispute is evidence of a far deeper "misunderstanding" in which not only East Germany, but the majority of other Warsaw Pact states find themselves on the wrong side of the Kremlin.

The immediate source of contention is the Soviet magazine *Sputnik* which, with the adventurous *glasnost* generally reserved for foreign consumption, has raised certain historical and topical issues which the East German leadership would prefer to leave buried. In this area of *glasnost*, Moscow is in the vanguard. For East Germany, the pace is too fast; it wants to get off.

What applies to *glasnost* applies also to the other changes now being broached in the Soviet Union. It is of little consequence to the East Germans that most of the Soviet reform programme remains on the drawing board. Even in a diluted form, the changes being drafted in Moscow threaten the security of the East German communist establishment. The regime which has hitherto been regarded as the most orthodox exponent of Marxist-Leninism suddenly finds itself being undermined, not by

Western "propagandists", nor yet by dissenters in its population, but by the erstwhile guardian of orthodoxy, the USSR.

Herr Honecker is not the only leader to be concerned. President Ceausescu, of Romania, Mr Todor Zhivkov, of Bulgaria, and Mr Milos Jakes, in Czechoslovakia, have all seemed confused. Their responses range from unpredictable crackdowns on dissidents to a tightening of the centralist reins; from talk of following the Soviet model to insisting that that is what they have been doing all along. Mr Gorbachev has not yet articulated a coherent policy towards Eastern Europe. Last week this lack of guidance allowed President Ceausescu to join Herr Honecker in claiming to be the true keepers of the communist word. It is but a small step to accusing the Kremlin of heresy or, in the jargon, of "revisionism".

The significance of this statement is only partly that it shows the insecurity now felt by the existing regimes in Eastern Europe. It also provides opponents of the Gorbachev reforms inside the Soviet Union with a stick to beat him with as the reforms start to go sour. So long as old-style leaders remain in power in Eastern Europe, there is a fifth column ready and waiting to assist a retreat in Moscow.

Foreign affairs in proper hands

From Sir Anthony Kershaw

Sir, Your correspondents who advocate setting up a body similar to the one described by Louis Heren (November 21), the National Security Council in the US, have obviously never been in government.

Deliberately to form a new government department in the hope, and with the intention, that it would give different advice to that of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office is constitutionally offensive to the practice of Cabinet responsibility and administratively stupid. What they really mean is that they think they could conduct our foreign policy better than Sir Geoffrey Howe. I doubt that.

The burden of their argument seems to be that the FCO is not sufficiently firm with these rearmament foreigners. It is worth reminding ourselves that before the war it was not the FCO but No 10 which practised appeasement.

More recently the FCO has been accused of wanting to give away the Falkland Islands. I believe — indeed I know — that this is untrue. It is, of course, the task of the FCO to use all diplomatic means to further the interests of our country, which includes the avoidance of armed conflict. The most important tool in this task of crisis is the diplomatic service. The FCO is right to maintain negotiation to the utmost of its usefulness.

In early 1982 the policy choices in relation to the Falklands were easy to see. They were:

1. To proclaim "Fortress Falklands", to stuff the islands with enough military force to ward off any attack. As no attack had been made, nor even clearly threatened, this policy would have been financially and politically impossible and would have been seen by the world as unduly provocative.

2. To hold our hand about sending forces, only sending them to ward off imminent attack, and withdrawing them as the threat diminished. This policy depended upon having a rational Government in Buenos Aires and excellent intelligence. And as soon as the troops were withdrawn, we would have been back to square one.

3. To let it be known that we would not defend the islands. This was politically impossible, either for Parliament or the country. We did not ever hint that we would not defend the islands, and to my certain knowledge the FCO never advocated such a policy.

It is said that the proposal to withdraw HMS Endurance "sent the wrong signals" to Galtieri. I do not believe that. In any case, it was the Ministry of Defence who proposed the withdrawal, and it

was against the wishes of the FCO that it did so. Secondly, Endurance was not withdrawn. Lastly, Galtieri was not in the mood for reading signals. All he wanted was an easy triumph to bolster his rotten regime.

4. To continue to negotiate as we were doing, with the aim of keeping the peace, and getting better conditions for the islanders, whilst making clear that we could not cede sovereignty without their consent. This we did. It was the only policy which made sense, and it was the one advocated by the FCO. That it failed was not our fault.

Anyone who believes that the FCO is staffed by an idle clique of Champagne Charles, of doubtful patriotism or expertise, will believe anything. They do not need another down-market, amateur government department to act as some sort of watchdog to see they do their job properly. I beg to remain, Sir, your obedient servant.

ANTHONY KERSHAW
(Chairman, House of Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs, 1979-87).
West Barn, Didsbury, Badminton, Avon.

From Vice-Admiral Sir Louis Le Bailly

Sir, There has been a wealth of criticism in your columns of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and its "denizens", members of the Diplomatic Service (article, November 4; letters, November 9, 11, 12, 15).

The main thrust has been well answered by Sir Geoffrey Howe (letter, November 7). But there does seem to be a lack of understanding amongst the critics of the skill and patience of our diplomats. This I believe is as common today as when I watched it for the last nine years of my Service life.

These qualities were well set out in 1973 by Professor the Reverend Gordon Dunsin, in the last of his Moorhouse lectures in Australia. Behind the rhetoric of the conference room, behind the drafts and counter-drafts, stands the work done in the corridors, more by the permanent civil servants and diplomats than by the politicians, men whose business it is, by the patient searching for understanding and agreement, to bring all parties to the goal which all wish to attain, but to which none dares to go alone.

Not for nothing were these bearers of the diplomatic burden singled out for encouragement and for prayer in the Second Vatican Council, for they are the artificers of trust. And trust is the keystone of the arch of all institutions built to support and shelter the frail but precious moral judgements of mankind.

Yours etc.,
LOUIS LE BAILLY,
Carlands House,
St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall.

'Living wills'

From the General Secretary of the Voluntary Euthanasia Society

Sir, I applaud Age Concern's recent advocacy (report, November 17) of the "living will", which aims to protect the patient against unwanted "medicated survival". The living will, or the "advance declaration", as it is more commonly called in this country, is neither novel nor an import from the United States.

For some time now the Voluntary Euthanasia Society has been urging people not just the elderly, to make advance declarations, and it provides the necessary forms and instructions. It also supplies a medical emergency card for cases of accident or sudden illness which gives useful information to the medical team, including personal wishes about being allowed to die peacefully, if all else fails.

You report Ms Sally Green-gross, Director of Age Concern, as saying "This is not euthanasia." This society endorses that view. However, by her advocacy of the advance declaration and the consequent acceptance of voluntary passive euthanasia, Ms Green-gross has allied herself to the society in its campaign to extend the rights and autonomy of patients. But we would go further and now seek legislation to allow incurably ill patients the option of medical help to die, if that is their request.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN OLIVER, General Secretary,
Voluntary Euthanasia Society,
13 Prince of Wales Terrace, W8,
November 18.

Romanian honours

From Mrs Jessica Douglas-Home and others

Sir, The Romanian authorities have let it be known that continued interest in the fate of Doina Cornea — the former philosophy lecturer from Cluj who has been arrested and severely beaten, since her appeal to President Ceausescu to stop the demolition of the country's villages (report, October 8) — will damage relations between our two countries. However, we believe it is the British Government who should insist that relations cannot continue in the face of such brutality.

The Queen should be advised to withdraw the honorary knighthood which she bestowed upon Ceausescu and to return the Star of Romania which she received in turn from him. Institutions such as the Royal Society of Chemistry which have bestowed honours upon his wife, Elena, should be encouraged to follow this example.

Yours faithfully,
JESSICA DOUGLAS-HOME,
NORMAN STONE,
CHRISTOPHER BOOKER,
63 Hillgate Place, W8,
November 21.

Doctors' insurance

From Mr Nigel Harris

Sir, The increase in medical negligence litigation and size of awards to injured patients has highlighted the enormous increase in doctors' subscriptions to the defence organisation. You report (November 15) the differential payment arrangements of the Medical Protection Society which will involve the at-risk specialties paying rates up to £5,000 a year.

As a member of a high-risk specialty who is heavily involved in medical negligence work, I am bound to stress the need for much higher subscriptions to allow defence organisations properly to discharge their duties. However, there is much that can be done to reduce these costs, including speeding up the litigation process. Most important of all is prevention.

When a mistake occurs, prompt admission and discussion with the patient should be obligatory. The present consent form is wholly inadequate; patients ought to be better informed as to the risk and what they may expect from the operation.

Medical audit for all the acute specialties will help to raise standards and reduce future errors. The training of surgeons is heavily dependent on adequate financial resources for our hospitals. Most litigation is caused by errors made by junior doctors. More consultants will undoubtedly help to raise the standard of medical practice.

It is an unfortunate fact that many health authorities take a calculated risk and will not act until after a disaster forces them to do so.

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL H. HARRIS (Consultant orthopaedic surgeon),
St Mary's Hospital,
Praed Street, W2,
November 15.

From Mr Arnold Simanowitz

Sir, The sad thing about the substantial increase in doctors' insurance premiums is that this need never have happened. Had the medical profession acknowledged the situation earlier they could have taken steps to control accidents which I have little doubt would have saved them from the present desperate attempts to control insurance premiums.

The profession should approach the problem from a moral angle, by striving to reduce accidents by training, medical audit etc., rather than by looking for ways — such as "no-fault" compensation and damages-capping — of reducing their insurance commitment.

Yours faithfully,
ARNOLD SIMANOWITZ,
Director, Action for Victims of Medical Accidents,
24 Southwark Street, SE1,
November 17.

A wider stage for shows in Britain

From the Director of the National Art-Collections Fund

Sir, In his article of November 15 your art critic, John Russell Taylor, deplored the fact that Britain was not getting a showing of the most important touring exhibitions of fine art. The reason for this is clear. Our museums and galleries do not have the resources to participate and they find it difficult to interest sponsors in providing funds for projects of this magnitude.

Lack of money has compelled our national museums to concentrate on urgent domestic problems and on the conservation and display of their permanent collections. As a result, a number have been forced to suspend their major exhibition programmes. The excitement of a major touring exhibition attracts a large public who then come to know and probably re-visit the museum where it is held.

Knowing the value of exhibitions in bringing the great heritage of our museum collections to the attention of the public, the National Art-Collections Fund has therefore embarked, cautiously but with a modest success, on a programme of special shows dealing with aspects of the fund's work.

The NACF is itself currently looking for a sponsor. This is to fund a unique exhibition, "Masterpieces of British Portraiture", in conjunction with the National Portrait Gallery to be shown in London, Moscow and Leningrad early in 1990, with a reciprocal exhibition of Russian portraits coming to London. Not only would this be a most valuable

exercise in cultural exchange but it would also be a rare chance for the sponsor to develop contacts with the USSR.

A greater flow of money from the corporate and private sector towards the arts, with more incentive from the Government, is urgently needed if we are to continue to stage important exhibitions in this country. Yours faithfully,
PETER WAKEFIELD, Director,
National Art-Collections Fund,
20 John Islip Street, SW1.

Gap in the galleries

From Mr David Day
Sir, One of the reasons why the exhibitions of the great 19th-century artists do not come to London may be that we have little to contribute from our own collections.

Take Gauguin, for instance — the artist under review (November 15). The Tate Gallery has only two of his works on show. The National Gallery has one untypical example — a situation that has gone unremedied for 70 years, so far this year it has bought a Van Dyck and a Poussin, artists already generously represented both in the gallery and the country as a whole.

Last year, "Britany Girl At Prayer", the only Gauguin of consequence in private hands in the country, as far as I am aware, was shown at the Frimley Clark Institute in Massachusetts, without apparent objection. Yours faithfully,
DAVID DAY,
7 Bowles Lane,
Moreton-in-Marsh,
Gloucestershire.

Questions raised by sale of map

From Mr A. R. A. Hobson and others

Sir, The Hereford Cathedral Libraries Advisory Committee, of which we are members, was not consulted about the proposed sale of the Mappa Mundi (reports, November 17, 18, 19, 21). We have been consulted in the past about its conservation and its exhibition at Burlington House, but our opinion was not sought about the intention to sell it.

If we had been consulted, we would have advised the Dean and Chapter to try every other method of raising the money they need before thinking of alienating this unique monument of medieval art and learning, which has very probably been associated with Hereford from the time it was made.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,
ANTHONY HOBSON,
HARRY HOOKWAY, R.A. MYNORS,
B. F. ROBERTS, D. G. VASEY,
The Glebe House,
Whitbury,
Fordingbridge, Hampshire,
November 21.

English medieval document to a British public collection.

Yours faithfully,
BLAKE, Chairman,
The Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts,
Chancery Lane, WC2.

From the Secretary-General of the General Synod of the Church of England

Sir, Your leader, "Hereford and the world" (November 17), contained the erroneous statement that the Care of Cathedrals Measure, which recently received general approval from the General Synod, does not establish a mechanism of control over the "disposal of art or other treasure".

Clause 2 of the draft Measure does in fact provide that one of the types of project requiring approval under the Measure is the sale or other disposal of any object the property in which is vested in the chapter of the cathedral church, being an object of architectural, archaeological, artistic or historic interest.

Yours faithfully,
W. D. PATTERSON,
Secretary-General, The General Synod of the Church of England,
Church House,
Great Smith Street, SW1.

From Mr Lawrence Banks
Sir, As a member of a family which has lived in the diocese of Hereford for some 200 years, and a contributor to the recent cathedral appeal, I am appalled at the thought that the Mappa Mundi might leave Hereford, let alone England.

In the appeal no mention was made of the possibility of sale. I believe the response of donors would have been significantly different if the full facts had been known.

Since the cathedral authorities are unwilling to discharge their moral responsibilities, it will fall upon others to try and ensure that this priceless treasure remains in Hereford for future generations.

Yours faithfully,
LAWRENCE BANKS,
Ridgebourne,
Kington, Herefordshire.

Humble servants

From Sir David Serpell

Sir, Some of my former colleagues in Whitehall may well be greatly attracted by Lord Polwarth's suggestion (November 18) that they should regularly tend the royal parks and public squares. But they should be wary, if their gardening is deemed successful, they may be hived-off in that role, and privatised. If it isn't, they risk spending their afternoons before select committees rather than in the open air.

Further, they must expect to be observed, as they labour, by TV producers in search of new material. And, worst of all, Lord Polwarth will come and photograph them. Yours faithfully,
DAVID SERPELL,
25 Crossparks,
Darlington, Devon.

Inventive ploy

From Mr Colin Hannaford

Sir, Fellow Britons may be interested to learn of a discovery I have made which will save foreign exchange, delight our friends, confuse our enemies, and establish yet again British inventiveness and style.

Over the years I have lost several caps for the 50mm lens of my camera. These fragile, fiddly things are expensive. I have discovered that a better cap than money can buy is to be made by the addition of a few drops of glue (for a tight fit) to the inside edge of the bright yellow lid of a medium-size jar of Marmite. (The lid should be washed beforehand.)

Yours sincerely,
COLIN HANNAFORD,
66 Edwin Court, Oxford,
November 14.

Present indicative

From Mrs P. A. Woolley

Sir, Without knowing the age of Mr Oldfield's daughter (November 9), I cannot comment on his resigned acceptance of yet another Christmas gift of shaving foam; but among the adults of a family the only solution to this annual problem is an agreement not to exchange presents.

It is more fun to give and receive, at any time of year, an unexpected gift of flowers, favourite sweets, a meal out, or a happily discovered item that is known to be desired by the recipient.

Yours faithfully,
P. A. WOOLLEY,
Le Pavillon, Sark, Channel Islands.

From Mrs Enid D. Toomey
Sir, The most acceptable present is a net of bird-seed which can be hung at the bottom of the garden and thereafter forgotten.

Yours faithfully,
ENID D. TOOMEY,
Aquila, The Green,
Great Bentley,
Colchester, Essex.

From Mr J. B. Prior
Sir, The words "passed on" present my father ever received from his eldest sister was a pair of what looked like unused bed socks. He, in fury, gave them to me.

When I put them on I found, to my horror, a used corn plaster in one of the toe ends. My aunt, at the time, kept a small private hotel.

Yours faithfully,
J. B. PRIOR,
Woodlands, Ruishton,
Taunton, Somerset.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (01)782 5046.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE November 22: The Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, went in State to the Palace of Westminster today to open the Session of Parliament. Her Majesty and His Royal Highness drove in a Carriage Procession to the Palace of Westminster, escorted by a Sovereign's Escort of the Household Cavalry.

Guards of Honour were provided at Buckingham Palace by The Queen's Guard (2nd Battalion, Grenadier Guards) and at the Palace of Westminster by the 1st Battalion, Welsh Guards. A dismounted party of the Household Cavalry was on duty at Victoria Tower, House of Lords.

Gun Salutes were fired in Hyde Park by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, from the Tower of London Saluting Battery by the Honourable Artillery Company.

The Imperial State Crown, the Sword of State, and the Cap of Maintenance were conveyed previously to the House of Lords in a Carriage Procession, escorted by a Regalia Escort of the Household Cavalry.

Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms was on duty in the Prince's Chamber and the Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard was on duty in the House of Lords.

The Ladies and Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting and the Pages of Honour to the Queen were in attendance at the Palace of Westminster.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh later returned to Buckingham Palace and were received by the Lord Chamberlain and the Vice-Chamberlain of the Household.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, this afternoon visited the Ford

Motor Company Bridgend Engine Plant (Plant Manager, Mr Roy Goddard), Waterton Industrial Estate, Bridgend.

Having travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, His Royal Highness received a warm arrival at Cardiff Airport by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for South Glamorgan (Mrs Susan Williams).

The Duke of Edinburgh later visited the Allied Steel and Wire Steel Works (Chief Executive, Mr Alan Cox), Castle Works, Cardiff.

His Royal Highness this evening attended the Award Scheme General Council Dinner at the City Hall and was received by the Right Hon the Lord Mayor of Cardiff (Councillor Bill Herbert).

Brigadier Clive Robertson was in attendance.

The Prince Edward, Chairman of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme Projects Committee, this evening attended the Royal Gala Night production of *Aunt Edwina* at the Westminster Theatre, London SW1.

Captain William McLean was in attendance.

The Princess Royal today visited Northern Ireland. This morning, Her Royal Highness as President of the Missions to Seamen opened the new Missions building at Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare. Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Belfast (Sir Robin Kinahan).

Her Royal Highness visited Lagan College, County Down, and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for County Down (Colonel William Brann).

The Princess Royal, Patron, Ulster Sport and Recreation Trust, this evening attended a fund-raising scheme for Ulster Sports and Recreation Trust at the House of Sport, South Belfast.

Later, The Princess Royal, President, Save the Children

Fund, visited Malone House and was received on arrival by the Northern Ireland President, Save the Children Fund (Mr A. Hurst).

Her Royal Highness, President, Riding for the Disabled Association, visited the Cavallo Riding Centre, Newtownards, County Down.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of 32 Squadron, Royal Air Force, and also in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Lieutenant Colonel Peter Gibbs and Mrs Charles Ritchie were in attendance.

This evening, The Prince Royal attended a Dinner at Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, to celebrate the 80th birthday of Lord Fort.

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

CLARENCE HOUSE November 22: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this morning launched a tree in the South Grounds at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

Ruth, Lady Fermoy and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

Mrs Patrick Campbell-Preston has succeeded Ruth, Lady Fermoy as Lady-in-Waiting to Her Majesty.

KENSINGTON PALACE November 22: The Prince of Wales, Chairman, The Cambridge Commonwealth Trust, opened a Packer House, Madingley Road, Cambridge.

Subsequently, His Royal Highness, Chairman, The Cambridge Overseas Trust, launched the Trust at a meeting in Packer House.

Later, The Prince of Wales visited an Anglian Water Environmental Project at St Ives, Cambridgeshire.

Sir John Riddell, Bt, was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE November 22: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present at the State Opening of Parliament this morning.

Her Royal Highness, as President of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, attended a Gala performance of *Hence Forward* held at the Vaudeville Theatre this evening.

The Hon Mrs Wills was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE November 22: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, as Patron, was present this afternoon at the General Meeting of The East Africa Women's League (United Kingdom) at Holy Trinity Church House, Bromford Road, London, SW7.

Mrs Michael Harvey was in attendance.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester were present at the State Opening of Parliament this morning.

The Duke of Gloucester this afternoon attended an Open Day at the Royal London Society for the Blind, 105 Salisbury Road, London NW6, to mark the occasion of the Society's 150th Anniversary.

The Duke of Gloucester was present at a reception to mark the launch of the new Open Day, Raleigh Book Trust, *Challenge*, at 56 Davies Street, London W1.

Lieutenant Colonel Sir Simon Bland was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester was present this evening at the open house of the new Peper Harrow Foundation at The Banqueting House, Whitehall, London SW1.

The Lady Camoys was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE November 22: The Duke and Duchess of Kent were present at the State Opening of Parliament this morning.

The Duchess of Kent this evening presented the Torch Trophy Trust Awards at St James's Palace, London W1.

Mrs Alan Henderson was in attendance.

OBITUARIES

TOM FRASER

Fair-minded Minister who planned breath tests and speed limits



Tom Fraser demonstrates an early breathalyser, watched by Sir Frank Soskice

Tom Fraser who, as Labour Minister of Transport from 1964 to 1965, first announced plans for the breathalyser and introduced the 70 miles an hour speed limit on Britain's motorways, died on November 21 at the age of 77.

He made important contributions to Scottish affairs, particularly as a highly successful chairman of the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board from 1967 to 1973.

Thomas Fraser was born on February 11, 1911 and started work in the mines at the age of 14. He was still working underground up to the time of his election to Parliament at a by-election in Hamilton in 1943.

Fraser made an early impact at Westminster, bringing a sense of reality and sincerity into all he said and did in the Commons. A spell as parliamentary private secretary to the President of the Board of Trade (Hugh Dalton) gave him useful experience of the workings of a government department.

He had a natural interest in Scottish matters which was rewarded after the general election in 1945 with his appointment as Joint Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Scottish Office, which he held until 1951.

While there he showed great energy in introducing new industries.

His devotion to Scotland was real and deep but did not manifest itself in any extreme way. He built up a reputation for being an extraordinarily fair-minded minister. His first approach to any problem was to weigh up carefully what was the right thing to do: political consequences were secondary.

All who came in contact with Fraser were impressed by the breadth of his intellectual insight which distinguished

him from some of his political colleagues whose perception was more closely tied to their background. As a result he was much liked and trusted by all parties.

He became Minister of Transport in 1964, taking over the reins from his controversial and energetic Conservative predecessor, Ernest Marples. He supported a policy of traffic engineering and long term town centre planning, accepting the Professor Colin Buchanan doctrine of restraints on the number of vehicles acceptable in town and city centres.

His vigorous campaigning for road safety included plans to introduce vehicle testing and seat belts and, in the campaign against drinking and driving, he defended the use of shock warning posters.

Fraser faced criticism from some of his own rank and file for the lack of visible progress

with the Labour commitment to produce a plan for the integration of road and rail transport. Work had been done behind the scenes under his leadership and Fraser concluded, on the basis of papers prepared for his ministry, that his Tory predecessor had been right in his belief that roads, railways and shipping should be run as separate entities. It was an example of his disregard of political consequences in reaching "the right decision".

It shortened his tenure at the transport ministry, which lasted for a little more than a year. In December, 1965 he resigned and was replaced by Barbara Castle. He was offered another full ministerial post outside the Cabinet but refused it partly for personal reasons, making it clear he preferred to return to the back benches. The manner of his leaving the Government

added to the respect in which he was held.

Two years later he left Westminster on his appointment as chairman of the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board, with a seat on the South of Scotland Electricity Board, and as a member of the Highlands and Islands Development Board.

The appointments enabled Fraser to concentrate his whole attention to Scottish affairs and his leadership was widely respected. He remained with the Development Board until 1970 and the Hydro-Electric Board until 1973, when he became chairman of the Scottish Local Government Commission set up to deal with the transfer of staff involved in the reform of local government.

Fraser's wife, Janet, died last year. He is survived by a son and a daughter.

JUDGE MCKINNON

Outraging the moralists at the Old Bailey

His Hon Neil McKinnon, who died on November 17 aged 80, had a turbulent career as an Additional Judge at the Old Bailey, where his judgements had the knack of outraging moralists and politicians from both ends of the spectrum.

Thus in 1976 he had the conservative Festival of Light up in arms against the fact that the father of a pin-up and *Swan* page three model (as one of his daughters, Kathy, then was) should be in charge of a pornography trial. While two years later he attracted the wrath of the moral, political and legal left for what appeared to be misplaced leniency towards a defendant acquitted of inciting racial hatred.

A hundred Labour MPs signed a motion calling for his

dismissal and forty distinguished Afro-Asian and Caribbean barristers said they would refuse to conduct cases before him.

In the event McKinnon got away with a mild slap on the wrist from the Lord Chancellor, Lord Elwyn-Jones, but at his own request tried no more cases involving racial issues.

On another occasion he outraged moralists and mothers throughout the land, when he gave a conditional discharge to a man convicted of unlawful sexual relations with a girl under 16 on the grounds that the girl had consented fully and "had no complaints at all — a thoroughly satisfactory experience as far as she was concerned".

More wrath fell on him when, in a post-trial interview he rebutted the argument that a physically mature girl might nevertheless need moral protection on the score of her mental immaturity with the disarming riposte: "It seems to me that so many grown-up people fail to act wisely that foolishness can scarcely be said to be the prerogative of youth".

McKinnon's problem was, perhaps, his tendency to indulge in a kind of legal stream-of-consciousness, on the bench. His ruminative, fire-side manner often perplexed those who were used to the more orotund style.

It must be said, too, that he did not exactly shun publicity, though it was often difficult to avoid it; whenever he presided over a trial with any sort of

moral content in it, pictures of his glamorous daughter were sure to outdo his own be-wigged mug shot in the pages of the popular press.

His informality in the bench may have owed something to his Australian upbringing. He had been educated at Geelong College, Victoria, before coming to Britain to Trinity College, Cambridge.

Called to the Bar in 1937 he served in the RAFVR in the war and then practised at the criminal bar, taking silk in 1957.

He was Recorder of Maidstone from 1961 to 1968, and Additional Judge at the Central Criminal Court from 1968 to 1982.

He leaves his widow, Janet, three daughters, and four sons, two of whom are barristers.

TAMARA HASSANI

Making the circus an arena for human skills

Tamara Hassani, a leading figure in the circus, died on November 18 at the age of 60. Her initiative a decade ago in starting the first British circus without animals changed forever the highly traditional world of the circus and the public's perception of the Big Top.

She was born in September 1928 in Russia in a railway station of a town so small that her parents could not remember the name. Her father, Nikolai Polokovs, was a clown and small circus owner.

Tamara's earliest years were spent travelling with the family circus. But then her father left the increasingly oppressive Soviet Union to find better work in England. He quickly established himself with Bertram Mills Circus and adopted the name with which he was to become world famous — Coco the Clown.

When Tamara was nearly five the rest of the family followed the father to England. Despite three years

schooling in a convent in Torquay, her education inevitably tended to be acquired in and around the Big Top. By the time she was a teenager she had, like the rest of her siblings, developed her own performing abilities.

With the war over, she became a performer first with Mills and then with Billy Smart's circus, appearing frequently with a brother who was billed as Coco Junior. It was at Smart's in 1952 that she

met and fell in love with Ali Hassani, a member of a Moroccan tumbling troupe. Strong opposition from her family to any match because of his nationality forced her in 1954 to attempt a marriage with the brother of a friend, a merchant navy officer. He returned to his ship just hours after the wedding ceremony.

Two years later after a divorce, Tamara Polokovs finally married Ali Hassani.

The couple made their careers together in circuses around Europe. Slowly they found that, with Moroccan tumblers acquiring a reputation in the circus as the best in the world, there was a better living to be made not as performers but as teachers and trainers.

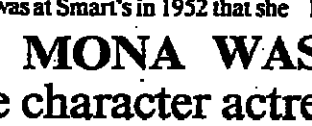
Relations with her father, by now a symbol of the circus around the world, improved and not long before his death they discussed the possibility of establishing their own circus, much as he had in Russia long before. The ambition was

not realized in his lifetime but the advice that he gave — to start a circus without animals — was followed.

In 1979 Circus Hassani, the first British circus without animals, went out on the road, billing itself as the circus of human skills. Its appearance was vilified by much of the rest of the British circus world, fearful for its own future, and for several seasons the Hassanis had to endure barely concealed hostility from their peers, coupled with two disastrously wet summers.

The Circus Hassani put down permanent roots first at Chessington Zoo and then at Alton Towers and a second circus was begun at Chessington under the banner Tamara Coco.

Earlier this year, Tamara Hassani was diagnosed as suffering from cancer but she refused to allow this to inhibit her running of her big tops. She leaves behind her husband, Ali, and three daughters



Mona Washbourne

Mona Washbourne

Versatile character actress in background roles

Mona Washbourne, who died on November 15, aged 84, was a highly experienced actress who for years in the West End had given to secondary characters an immediate, tingling life of their own.

Although she had acted with Sybil Thorndike, Olivier, Richardson and Gielgud, she had only one major leading part, in the spring of 1966 at the Duke of York's when she appeared in a black comedy called *The Anniversary* — first play of a new author, Bill McIlwraith — as the evil dragon of an all-possessive Mum. She played the woman with immense and uncompromising zest.

Born in Birmingham on November 27 1903, and educated there, she was trained at the Birmingham School of Music as a pianist, a talent she would use during the 1920s for such companies as the Folies-Bergues (she was with them for three years). Later she had the arduous training in provincial repertory that enabled her later to take any part

to small but valuable roles in Rattigan's *The Winslow Boy* (Lyric, 1946), *The Foolish Gentlemen*, with Sybil Thorndike, (Duchess, 1948), and the mother in the long run of Fry's adaptation from Anouilh *Ring Round the Moon* (Globe, 1950). She became quite an expert in mothers.

She acted twice with Robert Morley, in *Hippo Dancing* (Lyric, 1954) and the musical *Fanny* (Drury Lane, 1956). In Paul Osborn's *Morning's at Seven* (Comedy 1955), she was among the talkers in a backstage shared by a pair of American suburban houses; and in November 1957 she went to America, first for a Broadway season in Coward's *Nude with Violin* and later in Los Angeles and San Francisco when she also took on Monica in the same author's *Present Laughter*.

Back in London, she was the Yorkshire mother of the youth (played by Albert Finney) governed by his irrepressible imagination, in *Billy Liar*

(Cambridge, 1960). At the Saville in 1962 she used the accent of her Midlands upbringing as Hilda, wife of the coming man, slave of the status symbol, acted by Laurence Olivier in David Turner's satirical farce *Semi Detached*.

For Prospect productions and the British Council (1967) she toured India, Pakistan and Ceylon as Mrs Tatterton "a shrewd and motherly lady who has been pretty in her time" in Shaw's *Misalliance*. At the Court in 1970, and later in the West End and in New York, she was one of the two chattering middle-aged women patients in David Storey's *Home* (with Gielgud and Richardson).

Mona Washbourne acted in many films including *The Winslow Boy*, *The Good Companions* and *Billy Liar* and on television; she first appeared for Baird Television as early as 1929.

She was married to the late Basil Dignam.

Birthdays today

Professor Colin Adamson-Macdonald, electrical engineer, 66; Mr Robert Buhler, painter, 72; Mrs Anne Burns, former gliding champion, 73; Mr John Cole, broadcaster, 61; Mr Bruce Edgar, cricketer, 32; Colonel A.M. Gilmour, Lord Lieutenant of Sutherland, 72; Mr Michael Gough, actor, 71; Sir John Hermon, chief constable, RUC, 60; Mr Lew Hoar, tennis player, 54; Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Knight, 56; Mr David Lees, chairman, GKN, 52; Mr Christopher Lodge, poet and author, 62; Mr Maurice Lush, former governor, Northern Province, Sudan, 92; Mr Alan Mullery, footballer, 47; Mr Krzysztof Penderecki, composer, 55; Mr Nanton Pool, chairman of the Electronics and Associated Industries, 59; Miss Diana Quick, actress, 42; Sir Peter Saunders, theatrical producer, 77; Sir Peter Strawson, philosopher, 69; Mr Nigel Tranter, author, 70; Lieutenant-Colonel George West, Comptroller, Lord Chamberlain's Office, 51.

Receptions

Torch Trophy Trust The Duchess of Kent, presented the Torch Trophy Trust Awards for 1988 yesterday evening at a reception held at Simpson (Piccadilly) Limited. Her Royal Highness was received by Mr E.A. Croker, Chairman of the Trust and Mr J.C.R. Franks, Managing Director of Simpson (Piccadilly) Limited. Among those present were: Lord Alington, Lord Donoughue, Sir Roger and Lady Bannister, Lieutenant Commander Sir Richard Barker, Mrs A. Andrews, Mr M.C. Govey, Mrs E. A. Croker, Mrs J. H. Franks, Mr J. Franks, Mrs J. Franks and Mr and Mrs D.W.C. Smith.

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Mr Tony Durant, MP, chairman of the executive committee, and Mr Gordon Oakes, MP, joint honorary treasurer, were the hosts at a reception for the Executive Committee of the UK branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in the Houses of Parliament yesterday for high commissioners and other representatives of Commonwealth countries in London and visiting Commonwealth members attending the State Opening of Parliament.

A memorial for the Right Honourable The Lord Silkin of Dulwich, QC, will be held at Middle Temple Church, London, EC4, on Wednesday, November 23, 1988, at noon. Any inquiries to Anna Moon 0865 813318.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mrs Douglas Fairbanks will be held today, Wednesday, November 23, 1988, at noon at St James's Church, Piccadilly.

Federation of Ophthalmic and Dispensing Opticians The Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, the Lord Mayor of Westminster and the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police were the principal guests at the annual dinner of the Past Overseers' Society held last night at the Hotel Inter-Continental. Sir Reginald Pullen, chairman, presided.

Foundation for Science and Technology Lord Lloyd of Kilgeran, QC, Chairman of the Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner held last night at the Royal Society. Mr J. Collins, Mr E. Drewery, Mr D.A.W. Paley and Mr M.J. Gregory also spoke. Others present included: Lord Errol of Hale, Baroness White, Sir Ian Lloyd, Mr P. H. H. Warren, Mr J. H. Franks, Mr J. Franks and Mr P. H. Warren.

Christening The infant son of Lord and Lady Ralph Kerr was christened John Walter Deirdre Kerr by Father Philip O'Dowd at Melbourne Hall, Derbyshire, on Sunday, November 20. The godparents are the Earl of Ancrum, Mr Robert Drysdale, Mr Jaime Black, Mr Christopher Myers, Mr Panos Anagnostopoulos, the Countess of Dalkeith, Mrs Joe Gibbs and Miss Charlotte Black.

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Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron and Trustee of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, will attend the fourteenth meeting of the General Council at St David's Hall, Cardiff, at 10.45.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother will attend the Royal Concert at the Barbican Hall, in aid of the Musicians Benevolent Fund and allied charities, at 7.30.

The Prince of Wales will visit Boston Parish Church, Lincolnshire, at 10.25; and St Andrew's Church, Pickworth, at 11.35.

The Princess of Wales, as Patron of Turning Point, will visit the charity's Moss Lane East Alcohol Project at 460 Moss Lane East, Moss Side, Manchester, at 11.25; and, as Patron of the Guinness Trust, will attend a luncheon, in aid of the Smithfield Project, at the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza, Peter Street, Manchester, at 12.25.

The Duchess of York, as patron, will officially open Hope House, Saltram Crescent, W9, at 10.30; and Thurston House, Rectory Grove, SW14, for the Chemical Dependency Centre, at 11.25. As Patron, she will attend a dinner at the Dutch Picture Gallery at 7.45.

The Princess Royal will open the new occupational therapy department at the Harlow Wood Orthopaedic Hospital, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, at 10.00; open the new Technology Suite, Bonington Building, Trent Polytechnic, at 11.30. As President of the British Knitting and Clothing Export Council she will visit the Aristoc Production Unit at Belper, Derbyshire, at 14.00; and will attend the annual dinner of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists at the college at 7.30.

Princess Margaret will open London Lighthouse, the residential and support centre for people affected by Aids at 11/17 Lancaster Road, W11, at 3.30.

Dinners

The Princess Royal was the guest of honour at a dinner held last night at Grosvenor House to celebrate Lord Fort's eightieth birthday on November 26 and to launch the Charles Fort Foundation. Lord Montagu of Beaulieu presided and the Prime Minister, Lord Fort and Lord Thorneycroft, CH, were the speakers. Dame Vera Lynn sang *Happy Birthday*.

Past Overseers' Society The Lord Lieutenant of Greater London, the Lord Mayor of Westminster and the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police were the principal guests at the annual dinner of the Past Overseers' Society held last night at the Hotel Inter-Continental. Sir Reginald Pullen, chairman, presided.

Foundation for Science and Technology Lord Lloyd of Kilgeran, QC, Chairman of the Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner held last night at the Royal Society. Mr J. Collins, Mr E. Drewery, Mr D.A.W. Paley and Mr M.J. Gregory also spoke. Others present included: Lord Errol of Hale, Baroness White, Sir Ian Lloyd, Mr P. H. H. Warren, Mr J. H. Franks, Mr J. Franks and Mr P. H. Warren.

Christening The infant son of Lord and Lady Ralph Kerr was christened John Walter Deirdre Kerr by Father Philip O'Dowd at Melbourne Hall, Derbyshire, on Sunday, November 20. The godparents are the Earl of Ancrum, Mr Robert Drysdale, Mr Jaime Black, Mr Christopher Myers, Mr Panos Anagnostopoulos, the Countess of Dalkeith, Mrs Joe Gibbs and Miss Charlotte Black.

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THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Concern for all

New heights of dizzying complexity in the documentary-drama genre, mixing fact and fiction, were reached in *Witness* (ITV). This succeeded in bringing a case of suspected child abuse vividly to television by mixing real social workers with actors portraying the family concerned, and leaving the verdict open-ended, to be genuinely decided by role-playing in a mock case-conference.

If the premise of the programme was somewhat disturbing, the realization was even more so. Social workers from Hillingdon were faced with the facts of a case which had been reported elsewhere in the country, and were then left to pursue their own procedures. What we saw must have been a brutal condensation of the real case, yet it pointed up flaws in the system all too clearly. Abuse was deemed likely, but impossible to prove, and social workers were portrayed as caring, anxious to explain, and anxious to intervene on a child's behalf.

Yet standard procedure seemed inadequate to match the facts of the individual case. Suspected abuse of a five-year-old was reported by grandparents, but evidence of dissension between grandparents and the child's mother was hardly analyzed before an interventionist course of action was pursued.

In the film's central theme, before the suspected abuser had been given any case to answer, both mother and child were removed for questioning and he was not allowed to be left alone with a young baby. The social worker, sympathetically portrayed, was put in the role of mediator between welfare and the law; doctors, who should surely be central to any long-term assessment, were absent. Decisions were taken by those whose knowledge of the family was necessarily short-term.

William Holmes

Sheridan Morley meets the suddenly ubiquitous, slightly surprising theatre director, Tim Luscombe

Man of some moment

Considering that 12 months ago the director Tim Luscombe was still tearing tickets in the Royal Court foyer, without a non-fringe production to his name, he can't be said to have done altogether badly in his 26th year. Thus far he has already had two productions running simultaneously in the West End (a highly-praised Rattigan double-bill at the Royal and the ongoing *Easy Virtue*, a rare Coward rediscovery, at the Garrick) and he will have achieved four more before Christmas.

Having directed at the King's Head the first major staging of Tom Stoppard's *Artist Descending a Staircase*, which is now transferring to the Duke of York's, he stayed at that Islington pub to direct Sheila Gish in *When She Danced*, Martin Sherman's play about Isadora Duncan, before going down the road to Sadler's Wells for *La Belle Helene* and up to Leeds for a revival of *London Assurance* (to be reviewed on this page tomorrow).

But what makes Luscombe unusual as well as unusually active among young directors is an unfashionable passion for the well-made plays of the past, and most notably of Coward and Rattigan.

The son of a Surrey chartered accountant, he started out at school in Wimbledon and went up to Oxford reading geography, after which he then spent a year teaching at the Merchant Taylors. "That was a ghastly mistake all round: I'd started directing plays at Oxford when I discovered that there were already far too many actors, but then I thought maybe teaching would make for a safer career."

"In the event it was hideous, right down to the headmaster storming out of my production of *40 Years On*, just as the headmaster on stage was doing the same thing. Alan Bennett can never have known how close that play got to the truth of school life. I knew on the second day of my first term that I had made this appalling mistake, but they made me stick out the whole year. I finished it by making a few friends among the Lower Sixth, which was more than I ever achieved in the staff room, where they thought I was some sort of theatrical lunatic."

From there, Luscombe progressed to the Bristol Old Vic, selling his car to pay the



Old fashioned? Tim Luscombe loves Coward and Rattigan, but his next project may be a new work with Martin Sherman about Aids

fees, and then on to Farnham, running schools tours of *Hamlet* with a cast of four, not to mention a *Troilus and Cressida* set in outer space.

"Then Ray Cooney took me on and sent me to work as an assistant to Ron Eyre, on *When We Were Married* at the Whitehall, which was the most important learning experience of my life, except that it was followed by 18 months out of work. I found some rich friends, lay on the beach for a bit, began financing my own fringe productions at the Red Lion with money I earned being a box-office manager, and finally Martin

Tickner gave me a job directing a one night charity revival of Coward's *Semi-Monde*."

Dan Crawford of the King's Head saw that, and offered him the revival of another early Coward, *Easy Virtue*, since when Luscombe has been rather more fully employed. "What I really want to do now, though, is a new play and I'm working on one about Aids with Martin Sherman. I live with an actor in a shoebox in Balham, and all of us who are gay in the theatre are only too aware that the English have somehow failed to come up with a *Normal Heart* or even an *As Is*."

ROCK

Sade
Wembley Arena

The 29-year-old singer, from whom the group takes its name, was dressed in white, her hair scraped back with its usual severity to give her face that odd, moon-like quality. She sang in her warm, feathery style and danced with small, swaying steps, looking like an Egyptian frieze come to life.

Similarly, the nine members of the band, in dark lounge suits, played in a measured, understated style that was the antithesis of the brash, overheated noises of rock'n'roll. The austere staging was complemented by a series of backdrop projections. When "The Sweetest Taboo" was introduced by taped thunder and flashes of "lightning", many of the audience were visibly startled.

Sade's album sales worldwide are now in excess of 18 million, but her delicately shaded, jazz-inflected music made more sense in live performance. It became apparent how much she depends on and enjoys the interaction with the rest of the group, particularly the saxophonist/guitarist Stuart Matthewman and the backing singer Leroy Osbourne, with whom she sang various numbers as duets, notably "Never as Good as the First Time". Also, it was possible to get the measure of variations in pace, intensity and mood which pass undetected on the records.

In America the group's live shows are greeted with noisy enthusiasm, but at Wembley, as the performance climaxed with the moosegroove groove of "By Your Side" and the seductively imploring "Is It a Crime?" the response was muted. The effect was of fleeting tactile fascination, like touching the grain of a piece of wood, with its whorls and knots sanded to a very fine finish.

David Sinclair

CONCERT

Akathist of
Thanksgiving
Westminster Abbey

To mark the millennium of the Russian Orthodox Church to which he belongs, the English composer John Tavener has written another monumental sacred choral work. Premiered on Monday night, it is not strictly speaking a liturgical setting; it sets a remarkable hymn of praise, written in presumably gruelling circumstances by an Orthodox priest, Gregory Petrov, who died in a Siberian prison.

But in its 11-fold repetition of form and content, its thorough grounding in the contours of Byzantine chant, and its emphasis on drones, bells, and unaccompanied voices moving largely in block chords, the music proclaims a ritual purpose clearly enough. It is sparse in instrumental effects — the English Chamber Orchestra sat motionless for perhaps 50 of its 80 minutes — but compensates with a lushness in the choral writing. A recurring passage in parallel triads is ethereal and striking; and some of the solo writing, particularly for the two counter-tenors (Michael Chance and Simon Gay, both in fine voice) has an almost Puccinian declamatory power.

Moreover, although operating within a rigorous, cyclic structure, Tavener varies the refrain-patterns with great ingenuity, gradually intensifying the drama as Petrov's poem moves from contemplation of the external, through oblique reference to his present suffering, to its final affirmation of faith. In this admirable performance, Martin Neary obtained singing of great beauty and stamina from the Westminster Abbey Choir and Chorus.

Richard Morrison

Unsurpassed in scope and authority, the New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians contains more than 22 million words of scholarship in its 20 volumes; along with five music-filled days in New York, it is the first prize in *The Times/New Grove Musical Challenge*, a test of wits and knowledge for which the second batch of questions is published today.

To go with the £1,100 dictionary, the winner will enjoy New Year at the Grand Hyatt Hotel on 42nd Street, with tickets to Domingo in *Aida* at the Metropolitan Opera and to a gala featuring Marilyn Horne at Carnegie Hall, plus £200 spending money.

Here is the second batch of five questions:

6. In what opera does a man have his brother put to death?
7. In what opera does a man take his brother's place in Hades so that the brother can marry the girl they both wanted?
8. Who said of whom: "I compose to live; my brother lives to compose"?
9. Which brothers were simultaneously the heads of the two main conservatories in their country?
10. Which great German composer had a brother who taught the piano in Venezuela?

How to enter

Each day until Saturday, November 26, five questions will appear in *The Times*. Keep your answers until Saturday, when a reply coupon for all 25 questions and instructions on where to send them will appear with the final set of questions.

The person with the greatest number of correct answers will be the winner. In the event of a tie, there will be a draw to determine the winner, the second prize

THE TIMES
NEW GROVE

Musical
CHALLENGE

Second prize is a full set of the dictionary, while three runners-up will receive their choice of the New Grove's *Dictionary of American Music*, *Dictionary of Musical Instruments*, or *Dictionary of Jazz* (published by Macmillan at £395, £295 and £225 respectively).

Competition rules

1. Prizes cannot be exchanged for cash equivalent.
2. Entrants must be 18 years of age or over.
3. Employees of News International or Macmillan Publishers Ltd, past or present, and their immediate families, are not eligible.
4. No correspondence can be entered into.
5. The judges' decision is final.

winner and, if necessary, the runners-up.

Cold creativity

THEATRE

Henceforward
Vaudeville

"Sometime quite soon" runs an ominous programme note to Alan Ayckbourn's play, setting the scene for a London of automated hypermarkets and visual answering machines, where the streets have been taken over by tribal warfare. The future is always bad news in the theatre, but, in this case, it springs at least as much from the distorted viewpoint of the central character as from any vision of the shape of things to come. The hero is the familiar figure of the middle-aged artist who has severed himself from the outside world, thereby cutting himself off from his source material.

Ayckbourn develops this into a technological fable through the figure of Jerome, a composer who shares his computerized fortress with a robot child-minder (Nan 300F) and a digital audio system which has languished unused since his wife removed herself and his beloved daughter. Now he plans to regain access to the child by hiring an actress to play his fiancée and impress the child welfare department with a show of domestic harmony.

It is essentially a one-character

fable, showing an artistic egoist treating all human contact as raw material for his work, and finally improvising his ode to love on a battery of synthesizers while ignoring despairing appeals from his family and old friends on the surrounding monitor screens. If that is the price of creative work, why is Ayckbourn writing plays? And why set the play in the future when Jerome would have walled himself up anyway?

What saves the piece from sentimentality is its command of technological comedy: in particular, the penalties of controlling the world without experiencing it. Jerome is on home ground in slotting a new programme into Nan, but faced with a human doll, in the shape of Zoë, the actress, he turns into a bungling bully; and responds with impotent horror to the sight of his chocolate-box daughter transformed into a transvestite truck driver.

Ayckbourn's production is vastly more electronically elaborate than his original Scarborough version. It is also sumptuously cast in the three main roles, of Ian McKellen's surly unshaven genius and Jane Asher and Serena Evans's balletically precise doubling as Nan, who changes from a hobbling old retainers into the docile blonde sweetheart of fantasy.

Irving Wardle



Impatient eccentric: Eleanor Bron as the countess on the side of right

Feeble minded

The Madwoman of
Chaillot
Lilian Baylis Theatre

The years have been unkind to Jean Giraudoux, the playwright sometimes held to be the nearest French equivalent to Shaw. Shaw's pen would have shrivelled in his fingers rather than write about Greek goddesses, Ondines or sweet-natured city paupers, but Giraudoux did, like Shaw, raise issues that seemed of moment at the time, even if his preferred style for resolving conflict was to charm his opponents into defeat. Since he is the playwright, the opposition to the virtues he upholds — honesty, niceness and love — is duly defeated, but from an audience's point of view the drama repeatedly fizzles out.

In front of the Café Francois — the name identifies the piece as a "state of the nation" piece — three soul-less businessmen deplore their countrymen's sentimental love of old places, which is stopping them devastating chunks of Paris in order to prospect for oil. Their plan is overheard by an eccentric countess, madwoman of the title, who has won the undying love of all the local vagabonds — street singer, shoelace pedlar, ragpicker and a dozen more — who wander through the action singing, peddling and representing, we must believe, the liveliness that makes Paris what it is.

Fortunately, the countess has a bottomless sewer in her cellar, a *cloaca ex machina* into which she lures all the villains. Paris is saved. Irony might make this play work today, or a production un-

ashamedly recalling (and expensively recapturing) the surreal wonderland of René Clair or early Anouilh. The present production, taken over by Nick Hamm after procedural disputes, fails to exploit the wide stage credibly in the street scenes and is baffled by its size in the cellar. Loud music is indiscriminately scattered yet no creative use made of the half-remembered mazurka.

Eleanor Bron manages the brisk impatience of the countess but not the poetic remoteness. There is amusement in scenes with the other madwomen (Selina Cadell especially), but witty paradoxes written to make us pause, rush past and leave no trace. Disappointing.

Jeremy Kingston

11 July 1899, a group of aristocrats and wealthy entrepreneurs founded a company to indulge their passion for motor racing. F.I.A.T. - Fabbrica Italiana Automobili Torino - grew to be a world leading diversified industrial group. This major exhibition traces Fiat's growth across land, sea and air from priceless early models, to the technology of the '90s and beyond, reflecting the application of art and design.

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WEDNESDAY PAGE

An unhappy inheritance?

Will Athina Onassis have a happier life than her mother? Libby Purves examines the over-privileged child

Athina Onassis looks normal and happy enough: four years old in January, with the gap-teeth and fine wispy hair of late infancy. She could be anybody's cheerful pre-school daughter, except for the awesome, and in many ways appalling, fact that she has just inherited £2 billion, a shipping empire, and — unless she is lucky — a family curse.

Christina Onassis has died before she had a chance to safeguard Athina's future happiness — even if she knew how. As one heiress dies, a new one is created. So Athina has lost more than a mother: she has lost her only shield against the cruel and remorseless pressure of inheritance.

"Poor little devil," said a passing nursery teacher, as I looked at Athina's picture in the paper. "Wish I could kidnap her and bring her up in a decent home not knowing anything about the money. Until she was 30, anyway."

It is a not an unreasonable reaction. Her mother had a miserable 37 years, despite all the money. But even leaving aside Christina Onassis, whose family messed her up in a way commonplace in every income-bracket, by divorce, emotional neglect and bereavement, there is good evidence that, for women at least, a large inheritance is a recipe for a lousy life.

Gloria Vanderbilt's early days were memorably described by John Mortimer as "Snow White surrounded by some quite sinister Beauty Queens and a platoon of dwarf-like lawyers". Olga Deterding died in miserable middle-age, abandoned by most of her friends; Barbara Hutton had her own 26-room duplex at the age of 14 but no real friends; Lady Henrietta Guinness escaped from her background to marry an Italian lorry driver, but jumped off an aqueduct in Italy leaving a six-month-old daughter; and Lisa Marie Presley has made one eccentric marriage already, aged 20, to a Scientistologist, and seems to be living away from it now.

Castling around for happy heiresses is hard work. When I asked Chris Wilson, a former Hickey columnist who is researching gossip column history over 50 years, he came up with Lady Leonora Grosvenor, who despite her wealth and divorce remains "the picture of serenity and calm"; and Teresa Keewick, heiress to the Jardine Matheson fortune, who renounced the lot to be a Carmelite nun near



Poor little rich girls: Christina Onassis as a child with her father Aristotle and, inset, Athina with her mother

Norwich and is, presumably, equally serene.

But it does seem that even when family life is conventional, a child born to great personal wealth is born to problems.

"I doubt very much," says child psychiatrist Eileen Orford of the Tavistock Clinic, "whether it is correct to call such children 'privileged' at all. One of the difficulties is often that their parents think they can buy anything, including care for the child day and night; and what does this do to the child's feeling of being valued? One day a child will look at its nanny and ask, 'does she

love me, or is it bought?'"

Even if the mother is unusually solicitous to be near her child, Orford suspects that the money distorts the picture. She says: "If a family has so much money that it is the obvious central core of life, doesn't that tend to squeeze out other things in proportion, like personal relationships? A lot of things are made more difficult by large amounts of money: loving, hating, creating, feeling, bonding with other people. I know one little boy whose great joy is his relationship with his National Health Service therapist — because he

knows it isn't a financial relationship."

In the doldrums of adolescence, the pains of first love and the uncertainties of young adulthood, the heir or heiress is dogged by one extra confusion: the lethal but unavoidable question, "Would I be worth anything, to anyone, if it wasn't for all the money?"

A young man I once knew at Oxford, heir to a chemicals fortune, admitted that he was secretly convinced that his place in college had been "bought" for him and his degree probably would be too. It was irrational, but it hurt.

A cushioned life can also bring a sense of being unnecessary: I think it was Christina Onassis who once said she had six homes and was not needed in any of them.

When it comes to finding love, being an heiress is clearly worse than being an heir. Nicholas Coleridge, editor of *Harpers & Queen*, observes that in society, "people tend to pity a man who marries a very rich woman, whereas the same is not true of a girl who marries a rich man". It follows that men of any dignity will shy away from an heiress unless they are themselves super-rich. As one of Barbara Hutton's suitors said: "I couldn't keep that girl in postage stamps and no girl is going to keep me in them."

Also, in a business family like the Onassis's, money brings considerable power and women are prone to be made uncomfortable and guilty by power. Perhaps the best preparation is to have started out shining shoes on the sidewalk: the contrast between the vacant, hot-house world of a rich girl-child and the harsh business sense she is expected to show later must be cruel.

Athina, it is said, was given not only a sheepdog for her third birthday, but also a whole flock of sheep and a shepherd. She is reported to have two private zoos and a Dior wardrobe. Children assume that their own lives are similar to everyone else's; they are often shocked when this turns out not to be so. Yet one day, the lawyers and trustees will expect her to do deals affecting thousands of workers' lives; or else (which might be worse), to sit on her private yacht while they do it on her behalf.

What solution is there for parents and guardians who want a decent human life for their opulent protégés? Jeffrey Archer's solution is to announce, frequently and publicly, that he "won't leave his sons one single penny". That way, they are at least uncertain about his intentions and have some motive to pay their own way.

The Paul McCartney solution, is, as Chris Wilson puts it, "making them go to the council schools so that they know what the structure of society is all about. Compare the McCartney kids with Sean Lennon, encouraged to give interviews at 10 years old."

Nicholas Coleridge favours the traditional British way of tackling the problem: the public-school ethos. It is less concerned with emotional fulfilment than Eileen Orford's view of the good family, but is more bracing than the international jet-set usually favours. "Teach them good manners and consideration. Nothing more horrible than these children who despise the people who drive their speedboats. Then education is very important. Something in your head that matters more than money."

If he had charge of Athina now, the first thing he would do is try to contain her firmly in one house. "I do feel sorry for all these kids you see being brought up virtually in the first-class lounge of airports." And as she grew up, Coleridge says firmly, "I would recommend more time in Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, perhaps, and less in Gstaad and Rio". It is a very British formula, but it has been known to work. One doubts, somehow, that it will be the one picked for Athina.

Powder room perestroika

FIRST PERSON

Anna Hall

I was broaching a delicate subject when I asked a colleague in the Moscow office where I, an English woman, have been working for two years if she thought the city's shops now had more to offer than during the 1970s — the so-called period of stagnation in the Soviet Union. But when she gave her defensive "of course", the other women disagreed with indignation. *Glasnost* had given them more nerve, but, as they were willing to confirm, *perestroika* had not hit the food and consumer goods shortages with any significant impact.

Ask any Russian woman what she wants in life and at the top of her priorities will be: to wear nice clothes and to have a good husband — good meaning non-drinking, high-wage-earning, handsome — who loves her, of course. The Russian woman's image of her own role is fairly traditional. Most see their main *raison d'être* in marriage and mother-

villages. At the office, the women who fail to do their shopping in the morning slip out at intervals during the day, making sure they return with a different excuse each time.

Never a dull moment, then, for shoppers, particularly if they have children and a very carnivorous husband to feed, as Russian husbands tend to be. One colleague warned me that some husbands divorce if the wife fails to prepare a meat dish, perhaps joking or perhaps not — she queues half an hour every day for meat.

Most bosses understand that, with such poor supplies of goods, it would be unreasonable to keep staff at their desks when they could be buying something. Last year, when there were rumours that Finnish boots were on sale somewhere in the capital, all women, but myself, slipped out. I was reminded of this just two weeks ago when heavy snow falls suddenly obliterated Moscow's golden autumn and forced me to hunt the shops for winter boots. I saw a pair of Soviet-made boots at the outrageous price of £80 (the average Soviet salary is £200 per month). They failed the durability test on the first day, which explained why the women had rushed to pay £115 for a pair of ordinary Finnish boots.

But life isn't all one big slog. Russian women are definitely relaxed about taking time out for fashion and make-up sessions at work, and are not shy about making a powder room out of the office two or three times a day; I've even had my hair cut there a couple of times. One Frenchman visiting the Soviet Union said he found Russian women the most coquettish in Europe.

Work is the place for dressing up to the nines, because few women can spare time for theatre, restaurants or even visiting friends. According to all reports, the main evening pastime is grinding the meat into cutlets.

But the saving grace here is the telephone. England would never be able to match the flat rate of two roubles 50 kopeks (roughly £2.30) per month for all local calls, however long. Russian women use this gift from the state to the full and make long chats over the phone their evening entertainment. But under *perestroika*, the policy of rationalizing prices might one day threaten this luxury.

'A Frenchman said he found Russian women the most coquettish in Europe'

enough problems. Shopping is the biggest problem and not just because of queues. The main food shops are called *Prodskis* because they are supposed to sell food products. The problem for the Russian housewife is that there is no telling what products will be sold where, and when. The staples in the Russian diet, if they can be found, are meat, cheese, milk, various yoghurts and sausage, but the most familiar *Prodskis* scene is of one type of cheese at the dairy counter and unapproachable, dehydrated fish at the meat counter. Open from 8am to 8pm, like most *Prodskis*, my local one displays shortages most of the time.

To be fair, the dairy sections of some *Prodskis* shops can look relatively impressive in the mornings, with their yoghurts and curds. But, to benefit from this, most women would have to do their buying, and queuing, before they start work.

The big food shops in the centre of Moscow are better provided, but it is a race for Muscovites to get to them before the two million "provincials" who come to the capital daily to buy what they cannot find in their own towns and

Give green

Green will be the most fashionable colour for Christmas gifts this year, with ecological concerns high on many people's lists. So you never can tell what interesting fugitive from the Rain Forest Ball you might bump into at the London Ecology Centre (45 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, tel: 01-379 4324) when its Christmas Fair gets under way next Tuesday.

There will be Christmas cards and gift wrapping, "crucity-free" cosmetics, recycled stationery, peaceful games and puzzles, kitchenware, books

and calendars. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds will sell items from its Christmas catalogue direct, and the National Trust will have a gift shop on site. Other groups taking part are Greenpeace, Traidcraft, Flora & Fauna Preservation Society, London Wildlife Trust, Friends of the Earth and Animal Aid. Admission is free, and the fair will run from next Tuesday until 4pm on Christmas Eve.

Child's play

A £1.50 investment in the magazine *What Toy?* — a guide to more than 500 toys selected from those appraised by the National Toy Libraries Association — is said to be able to

BRIEFLY

A round-up of news, views and information

save you costly Christmas mistakes. But any magazine that recommends Doctor Barbie and Doctor Ken (£10.99 each), Supercool Sindy and Supercool Paul (£6.49 each), and neglects to mention that the Gooper Ghost Sludge Bucket (£9.95) gets all gooped up with sticky "slime" that congeals inside the plastic ghost and costs parents about £1 a week in maintenance (providing more

slime to sate him, not to mention cleaning bills), seems more on the side of the manufacturer than the consumer. Far better value seem the sturdy, timber framed playhouses which are delivered and constructed, for you from £395 by My House Ltd, Norris Hill Farm, Brokerswood, Nr Westbury, Wilt, BA13 4EF (tel: 0373 822245). Write for a free catalogue. *What Toy?* is available from newsagents or from CT Publications, 120, Dawes Road, London SW6 7EG.

Canine chic

Harrods' pet department, which can provide anything from a diamond-studded collar for a giraffe (price varies

Quote me . . .



"By the time you turn off your bedside lights tonight, 10,000 children will have died today."

The Princess Royal

according to neck measurement (and specification) to a jogging suit for a corpulent canine, has just announced its Burberry dog coat collection for the Preppie pooch. Burberry has produced an elegantly tailored doggie coat in three different materials: traditional checked wool in beige or navy ("perfect for cold autumn and winter days") costs £20.20-£43.70; shower-proof with checked wool lining in fawn, black and navy for rainy days is £16.20-£39.70, and waxed cotton for "rougher play" in green or navy with checked padded lining costs £13.20-£36.70.

Victoria McKee

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COLEFAX AND FOWLER

A collection of unusual presents and wonderful surprises for Christmas

Pretoria accepts Angola schedule

From Michael Hornsby
Johannesburg

The South African Government announced last night that it had accepted the timetable for a withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola drawn up at talks in Geneva last week with Angola, Cuba and the United States.

"This means that the hard nut that had to be cracked has been cracked," Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister, told an international press conference here. It also meant, he said, that the main obstacle to independence for Namibia had been removed.

But Mr Botha added the proviso that South Africa's acceptance of the Cuban withdrawal timetable was subject to agreement on a verification procedure, in which both the

Pretoria rebuked.....11

United States and the Soviet Union would play a monitoring role. He said officials from the four governments were working on this now in New York.

He also said he did not think the tentative target date of January 1, 1989, for starting the independence process was "feasible", but declined to suggest a more realistic date. Mr Botha said it was "possible" that Namibia could be independent by the end of next year but would not say whether he thought it "probable".

Pretoria, Mr Botha said, wanted verification of Cuban withdrawal to be under the overall supervision of a "joint commission" consisting of the United States, the Soviet Union, South Africa, Angola and Cuba, which would act as a "sort of super appeal court" to hear complaints of violations from any party.

WASHINGTON: The US said that South Africa's acceptance of a schedule for Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola cleared the way for a peace agreement in southern Africa.

Kennedy's white rose at Runnymede



Senator Edward Kennedy paying tribute at the Runnymede memorial yesterday to his brother John F. Kennedy on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the President's assassination

in Dallas. The senator placed a white rose at the foot of the memorial at the site where King John signed the Magna Carta in 1215. The Massachusetts Democrat, on a private visit to

Britain, said the memorial had "a special meaning to all the members of the family. I welcome the chance to come out with some of the dear friends of President Kennedy. We think it's

extremely important to celebrate the life of President Kennedy rather than the tragedy. We are focusing on the hope of his life rather than dwelling upon his loss."

Governor of Texas 'was Oswald's real target'

From Charles Bremner
New York

America was offered a fresh variation in the "Who killed Kennedy?" genre yesterday after Time magazine gave heavy publicity to a theory that Lee Harvey Oswald's real target 25 years ago was not the President, but Governor John Connally of Texas.

According to extracts from a forthcoming book by James Reston, published as a cover story by Time, Oswald bore a powerful grudge against the

Governor, who was sitting beside Kennedy in his car and was seriously wounded by one of the gunman's bullets.

His hatred for Mr Connally stemmed from his belief that the Governor, a fellow-Texasan, had been responsible for the retroactive downgrading of his discharge from the Marines after his defection to the Soviet Union, Mr Reston writes. Mr Connally had previously served as Secretary for the Navy.

The elaboration of the Con-

nally theory, suggested at the time by testimony to the FBI, comes in the midst of an open season for conspiracy theories, aired in books and documentaries that have been timed to coincide with the 25th anniversary of the assassination. Most of the current theories blame the Mafia.

Mr Reston, the son of the veteran New York Times journalist, quoted members of the Russian émigré community in Texas, the circle in

which Oswald moved, as saying he focused his hostility towards right-wing politicians and particularly on Mr Connally.

"Connally came to take on enormous symbolic significance in Oswald's mind," Mr Reston said. Oswald's Soviet-born wife Marina told the Warren Commission: "I feel in my own mind that Lee did not have President Kennedy as a prime target when he assassinated him... I think it was Connally. That's my per-

sonal opinion - that he perhaps was shooting at Governor Connally," Mr Reston quoted her as telling the commission.

He also reported testimony given to the FBI by Mr Carroll Jarnagin, a Dallas lawyer. Mr Jarnagin gave a detailed account of a conversation he overheard in the bar of Jack Ruby, the nightclub owner who killed Oswald. Ruby appeared to be giving Oswald an assignment to shoot Mr Connally.

Political sketch

A man's eye view of woman-power

Grander persons reached Westminster on Tuesday by State Coach. Your sketch-writer took the number 69 bus to Plaistow Tube Station. Dimpleby, commenting, would have seen me descending from the bus, looking tense but dignified, watching for the first (if not only) time that day, female power.

She was dressed in a severe little black number, relieved by a flash of yellow on the epaulettes and cap. She was a traffic warden, involved in an unhappy exchange with a lady parked on a zebra crossing. "I don't care if you're waiting for your kids. I've got kids too, ain't I? But I've got a job to do..." She looked tired, not flustered at all.

The Embankment offered a second vignette. At the wheel of a parked vanful of men, this woman wore a sharp-cut dark jacket and skirt, with a white blouse and a chic black-and-white checked silk cravat. Encircling her matching hat, a slim band picked up the same chequered theme. She was a Metropolitan police officer. A backward glance found her off-guard, yawning, hat off, her curly brown hair shaken out and caught in the wintry sunlight. She looked rather nice.

Early for the State Opening, one looked out from the Lords gallery over a sea of rather different uniforms. The Guide to the Ceremonial read bewilderingly. Black Rod we recognized, but which was the Rouge Dragon Pursuivant? Where was the Woman of the Bedchamber, and what distinguished her from the Lady of the Bedchamber? Perhaps the Woman cleans under it and the Lady lies on it? Unwilling to speculate, one looked up to the Visitors' Gallery. Carol Thatcher, in scarlet, with a floppy felt hat, resembled an up-market Paddington Bear.

The Lord Mayor of Westminster, Elizabeth Frith, wore a tartan two-piece suit, neat but dwarfed by a vast bow. She looked like a British Caledonian air-hostess. We all rose as the Edwina Currie of the Royal Family, Princess Michael of South Devonshire - sorry, Kent - wandered in with some other princesses.

Then a bush, a fanfare of trumpets. In walked the Queen. Eat your hearts out,

traffic-wardens. Her crimson train, with matching page-boys, her gown, studded with jewels, were all just an underpinning to the Crown itself. The only known case, perhaps, of clothes and wear being accessories to the hat.

She spoke. An admirable thing about our Queen is her complete inability to pretend that she is enjoying herself. She fails to be taken in by her own role. Her Majesty reminds one of the little girl who didn't want to go to the party but has been persuaded that she simply must, and dispatched, grinning her teeth and grimly clutching the birthday-present - the Queen's Speech. She ploughed dutifully through such poetic phrases as "My Government will provide for the sale of the utility functions of the water-authorities" with a weary dignity as she could command. Then she and the Duke of Edinburgh left, holding hands. They looked not so much awesome as sweet.

And what of the Prime Minister? Trilled by a hundred backbenchers (including Bernie Grant in Ashanti morning-dress and Keith Vaz in a restrained little Nehru suit) she marched fiercely back to the Commons chamber. Dressed mostly in black, crowned by a sort of junior-hussar helmet, Mrs Thatcher wore the outfit of a dowager-Cossack and the expression of a B52 Bomber. No uniform, this. Our Prime Minister, alone among the power-dressed ladies of our day, has long ceased to wear a uniform, for what is worn can be removed. She has become the uniform: the woman and the office are not separable.

Outside the Lords, in the Victoria Gardens, is a tender, unselfconscious, English sculpture of Emmeline Pankhurst, observed mostly by pigeons.

On State Opening Day I could see from there over to Millbank, where a bus-conductress stood with binoculars. Why? She had been watching the Queen, she said. One uniformed lady watching another uniformed lady, through binoculars! I wonder if Mrs Pankhurst could see them?

Matthew Parris

Water and electricity to be privatized

Continued from page 1

putting the M15 security services on a statutory footing.

That Bill will be published today and Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, is to give details this afternoon. However, it is understood that the legislation will be modelled on the 1985 Interception of Communications Act. Under that Act a judge, Mr Justice Lloyd, examines the Home Office authorization process for telephone tapping and makes reports to the Prime Minister, which are published annually.

The new arrangements will provide two channels of redress against perceived excesses by M15 in countering terrorism, foreign espionage and subversion.

Ordinary citizens seeking redress will be able to go to an independent tribunal. Members of the security services who fear approaching their own superiors will go to Sir Philip Woodfield, the security services Staff Commissioner,

who operates within the ring of secrecy.

The Water Bill will provide for the ten water authorities in England and Wales to become public limited companies under the control of a new director general of Water Services, in a sale worth £20 billion. It will establish a new National Rivers Authority to be responsible for water pollution, resource management, flood defence and fisheries.

The Electricity Bill will enable the CEBG's generating capacity to be split into the two competing companies of PowerGen and National Power. It will allow the privatization of the area electricity boards as 12 independent supply companies and provide for the National Grid to be transferred to a new company jointly owned by the 12 supply companies.

The Government aims to improve the climate for business by removing restrictions on the employment of women and young people, strengthen-

ing the fair employment legislation in Northern Ireland.

The Companies Bill will provide for voluntary pre-notification of mergers, statutory undertakings rather than reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and the charging of fees for merger control.

Its deregulatory measures will simplify annual returns made to Companies House and enable PLCs to supply only abbreviated accounts to shareholders who agree.

Social change will be advanced by a Children Bill to replace and reform the law on the care and upbringing of children.

It will clarify existing welfare tests governing court decisions, reform the law on parental responsibility, clarify the rights of children and parents in care and supervision proceedings and introduce new shorter emergency protection orders to replace the present Place of Safety Orders.

The Social Security Bill will implement an EC directive giving equal treatment for men and women in occupational pension schemes and amend existing employment benefit legislation to make it a requirement for entitlement that a person must be "actively seeking work".

The revision of the Official Secrets Act will remove the blanket protection of that Act's Section 2 and replace it with provisions penalizing the criminal law only the unauthorised disclosure of official information in six defined categories: security and intelligence, defence, international relations, information received in confidence from another State, information useful to criminals and information obtained by interception.

Mrs Thatcher told MPs that the Government aimed after privatization to maintain the proportion of electricity produced from nuclear power at the present level.

Police to question man over lost girl

Continued from page 1

the investigation. Our job has been to find Evans," one officer said.

The two gendarmes who arrested Mr Evans as he was trying to hitch a lift along a minor road close to the Swiss border said yesterday that they had no idea initially that they had stopped one of Europe's most wanted men.

"We often stop people on the road. It was a routine check and when we asked him for his papers, he gave us his passport," said M Richard Ballarín, second-in-command of the nine officers stationed at Pont d'Ain.

"We linked into the national computer and the answer came back within a minute. As soon as we realized who he was, we put on the handcuffs."

The officers denied earlier reports that they had stopped Mr Evans, from Bettisfield,

north Wales, because he looked like a tramp. They said he was clean-shaven, dressed in jeans and a sheepskin jacket to protect him against the biting cold. He carried a bag which contained a change of clothing.

After he was taken into custody on Monday evening, he was taken to the police station at Pont d'Ain.

In London, the CPS was also yesterday giving the French authorities the necessary assurance that it would be applying formally for the extradition of Mr Evans. If he volunteered to return to Britain and the French authorities agreed, he could be back in north Wales by the end of the week.

But if he objected and a full extradition hearing was required his return would be delayed while witnesses made sworn statements before magistrates in Britain.

Sell stately homes to nouveau riche - Ridley

Continued from page 1

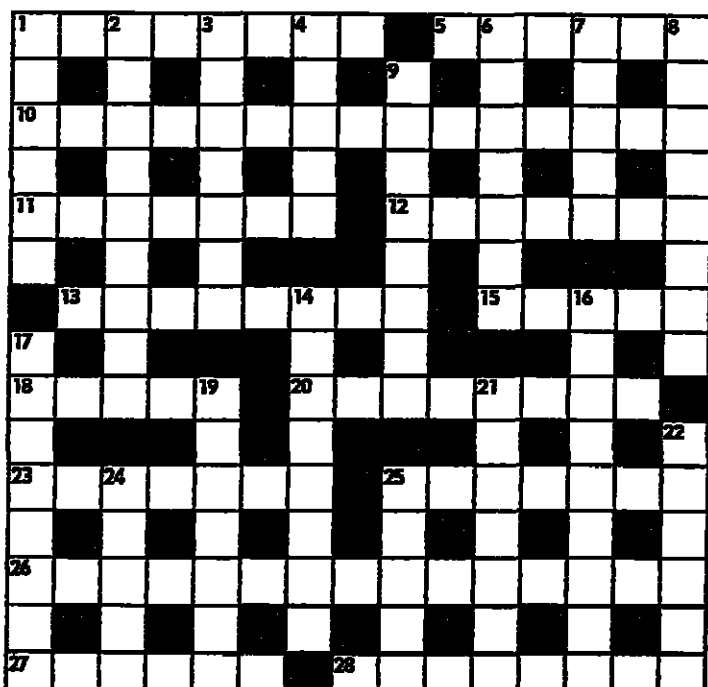
their forbears who had bought their way into polite society with their cheque book. His own family had a bill for £56 which was the cost of an ancestor's trip to London to get eight Dutch masters.

The Earl of Shelburne, President of the Association which represents private owners of heritage properties, said last night that he welcomed the thrust of what Mr Ridley had said, and did not think that private ownership meant restricted public access. The trend suggested quite the opposite, he said. Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, chairman of English Heritage, said it was a

stimulating speech that had given "a great deal of food for thought", but insisted that what Mr Ridley had said was in line with his organization's existing policy.

The charitable National Trust is now concentrating more on protecting the countryside and coastline, and does not seek new properties. However, one major recent acquisition was Kedleston Hall in Derbyshire which it took on in 1986 with £13.5 million from the Government's National Heritage Memorial Fund, a contribution from Lord Scarsdale, the former owner and a £2 million appeal.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,834



- ACROSS**
- Abundant return received by the working wife (8).
 - Translating Proust in a daze (6).
 - Boss put 4 on (4,3,8).
 - Write in large characters "N144" (7).
 - Amazed sailor's daughter (3-4).
 - Futile fellow, rash but not right (8).
 - Writer's method of travel... (5).
 - ... from Spain, forgetting his alarm (5).
 - Medicine put into water turns sweet (8).
 - Performing in the arena after one evening (7).
 - Divine creature looking good in sackings - right? (7).
 - Hurry up and prepare for the ice (3,4,6,2).
 - Legged it, pursued by police - that's bad (6).
 - Campaigns in which Charles,

- king of the French, beset another country (8).
- DOWN**
- Monkey making a mistake (6).
 - Feel anger - change colour (4-5).
 - Pick a race to scoff about (7).
 - Garment spread head to foot (5).
 - Proclaim principal piece of baggage lost (7).
 - Writer's unknown metric works (5).
 - Hospital doctor about to take an exam without study (8).
 - Oars plop moving tender (8).
 - You say the timber is beginning to expand and crack up (8).
 - Mediator's manoeuvres written off (9).
 - A dog, a bounder (8).
 - Companion, one opposed to drink (7).
 - Stir me up - it's what's needed to get me going (7).
 - Titan destroyed and not set up again in Greek island (6).
 - Usually apparent in tales of tension (5).
 - Comedian takes a card (5).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

CUTWATER

a. Water in a lock

b. The prow of a ship

c. A type of Pacific paddle

OCTAPLA

a. A type of squid

b. Eight parallel texts

c. A spiritualist emanation

HOOLOCK

a. A black hair style

b. An early firearm

c. An Assamese gibbon

PERDUELLION

a. A leopard/tiger cross

b. A wind duster

c. Treason

Answers on page 22

Solution to Puzzle No 17,833

SALADIN PROVERB

RIVET PASSEDEUX

OSETY TRINW

COMPOSURE TASSO

OUTER ILLUQUOQ

SCHOOL PANDA

WIPER BEANSTALK

FOAL MOLA

INTENSIVE LEARN

STONNAC

HAYSER TERRANCE

WEATHER

All areas generally dry and sunny after early frost and local fog. Cloud and showers in north-western coastal areas, northern Scotland, the east coast of England. Sunny in central England, the Borders and south-west England, but here the early frost will be most severe. Outlook: Little change.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=temperature; d=dew-point; h=height; s=sun; sh=shade; sw=swell; f=fair; c=cloud; fog=fog

C	F	C	F	C	F
Aleppo	12.54	Luxembourg	24.75	S	S
Algiers	5.41	Madrid	9.48	I	I
Alexandria	19.86	Moscow	14.57	R	R
Amman	25.77	Munich	18.64	I	I
Antwerp	6.43	Nairobi	15.59	R	R
Athens	19.66	Paris	15.59	R	R
Bahia	21.65	Rome	15.59	R	R
Barcelona	6.46	St. Petersburg	28.82	S	S
Bombay	1.30	Tokyo	7.45	S	S
Buenos Aires	21.65	Washington	15.59	R	R
Calcutta	21.65	Wellington	15.59	R	R
Cairo	22.72	Yokohama	15.59	R	R
Cape Town	21.65	London	15.59	R	R
Chennai	21.65	San Francisco	15.59	R	R
Chicago	11.30	Sydney	20.82	S	S
Colombo	21.65	Toronto	15.59	R	R
Copenhagen	17.83	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Dublin	17.83	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Helsinki	17.83	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Hong Kong	21.65	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Imbros	17.83	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Jakarta	21.65	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Kuala Lumpur	21.65	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
London	17.83	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Lyons	17.83	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Manila	21.65	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Medan	21.65	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Melbourne	17.83	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Mumbai	21.65	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Nairobi	15.59	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Perth	17.83	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Rangoon	21.65	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Reykjavik	17.83	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Rome	15.59	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Singapore	21.65	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Sourabaya	21.65	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Taipei	21.65	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Tokyo	15.59	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
U.S.A.	15.59	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R
Yokohama	15.59	U.S.A.	15.59	R	R

AROUND BRITAIN

Sum Rain in C F

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Exeter 5.6 0.2 51 31

Gloucester 5.6 0.2 51 31

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Plessey chief calls for resistance to GEC bid

Plessey is to resist with "the utmost vigour and imagination" the takeover bid by the General Electric Company and West Germany's Siemens, said Sir John Clark, the Plessey chairman, in a letter to employees. A team of experienced executives under the direction of Mr Stephen Walls, the Plessey managing director, is working on developing countermeasures to the bidders' "vague" plans for Plessey.

Sir John, calling for employee support in maintaining the "sovereignty of Plessey," pledged: "The innovative thinking which has characterized our recent strategic development will be evident in the steps we take to ensure the Plessey company and its people remain masters of their own destiny. We see no worthwhile benefits in Plessey being acquired and its businesses taken over by GEC and its German partners."

Leisure group in double buy

European Leisure is buying Mister Craig's, a night club and restaurant in Leeds, for £1.25 million in cash. Mister Craig's had a turnover of £1.1 million for the 11 months to October 29. European Leisure has also purchased Le Café Noir, a pub in Perth, for £300,000. Both acquisitions will be funded from the company's existing resources.

BHH sale nets £14m

BHH is selling WSJ (Holdings) and Welland Homes, its housing subsidiaries, and a small residential site, to a management buyout consortium for about £14.1 million in cash. WSJ and Welland are being sold with their net borrowing, which at November 4 amounted to £6.9 million.

The management consortium, which has formed Linkharp, is led by Sumit and includes Hill Samuel Bank and Barclaytrust International. The remaining residential sites of the BHH division will be sold and could take the total disposal price to £25 million, which would raise the net assets per share of BHH from 78.3p to 96.5p.

Courtaulds to expand in US

Courtaulds is buying an elastomeric fabric manufacturing facility at Woolwine, Virginia, from the JPS Textile Group for \$8 million (£4.4 million). The price includes working capital and the completion of an investment programme covering new warping and knitting machinery. Courtaulds already has two elastomeric facilities in the US.

Christie climbs 68%

Christie Group, the specialist business agency which gained a full listing in July, saw pre-tax profits for the six months to the beginning of October jump 68 per cent to £2.66 million. Turnover was up 61 per cent to £12.5 million, with earnings per share rising 57 per cent to 7.70p. An interim dividend of 1.4p is declared.

Mr Philip Gwyn, the executive chairman, said the outlook for the year is encouraging with buoyancy in all the group's market sectors and a continued rise in the underlying value of clients' businesses. But he also said first half-year results are not necessarily a guide to the full year.

Goal scores a success at Magnus

Oil prices may be slumping and interest rates rising, but the present value of oil in the ground remains surprisingly high.

In 1984, when the oil price was more than \$30 a barrel, Forties and Claymore units were sold for \$4.90 and \$6 a barrel by British Petroleum and Occidental Petroleum respectively.

This week, when the oil price is \$12.10 a barrel and heading lower, Goal paid \$4 a barrel for a 2.5 per cent interest in the Magnus field. Goal argues that it could not develop a North Sea oilfield, assuming it was lucky enough to find one, for less than £4 a barrel, making \$4 a barrel look positively modest.

Goal is, after all, in a market place, where transactions in oil assets are still fairly common, and \$4 a barrel is not out of line with other recent deals such as Lasmo's purchase of Ninian.

Goal also points out that by adding 12 million barrels of reserves, it is increasing its oil reserves by 48 per cent, yet it is only increasing its issued share capital by 20 per cent, thereby improving the asset backing to its shares.

Part of the logic, which applies to all these transactions, is that because of tax relief, Magnus is worth significantly more to Goal than it is to the seller, British Petroleum.

Wyck Farm will give rise to a significant tax liability, but

not until the mid-1990s. Magnus, on the other hand is at peak now, and the interest in Magnus will allow tax relief which would otherwise not have been available for many years to be claimed right away. Goal calculates that the saving in bank interest by claiming the tax relief now is worth £11 million.

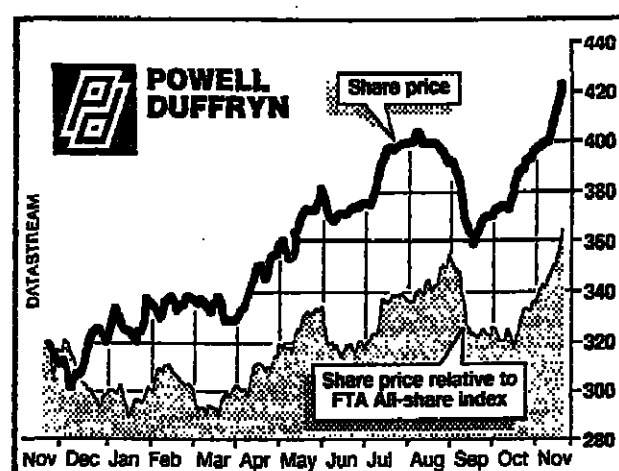
Goal also believes that diversity of production sources acts as an insurance policy, an argument that has gained in credibility since the Piper Alpha accident. Until now, Goal's main tax shelter has been a small interest in Claymore which has been shut down since the Piper accident.

All in all, this deal appears to enhance the attractiveness of Goal, perhaps making it more vulnerable to being taken over. Clyde Petroleum, a fellow oil independent, has a 21.7 per cent interest in the group.

But Goal has some fairly powerful protectors such as Norwich Union, which is taking up the rights on its 27 per cent stake, the Prudential with 8 per cent and 3i with 4.8 per cent. They have proved to be an effective antidote in the past, and should continue to be so.

Betacom

Betacom has not got round to making a Dan Quayle telephone, but it has plenty of other gimmicks to offer: phones with alarms, phones



that look like cars, soft drinks cans or pianos, and others which appear to have been sculpted by Henry Moore.

Since 1981, when it became possible for suppliers other than British Telecom to sell telecommunication equipment for connection to the telephone network, Betacom has been steadily grabbing a share of a rapidly expanding business. In most markets it is either the leader or a close second.

Now Betacom, which has been part of Cannon Street Investments group since the early part of last year, is being floated off in an offer for sale which values the company at £25.4 million.

Cannon Street is holding on to 29.9 per cent of the company and the rest is being sold to existing shareholders and other investors at 82p each.

The p/e multiple at the offer price, based on forecast earnings per share of 7.43p, is 11 times.

Betacom is confident that the market for domestic telephones is expanding but it has been developing a number of other products, including a mini-switchboard system and a newly-launched portable facsimile machine and copier.

The company, which has created a strong brand awareness, has a firmly established customer base, including major high street retailers.

Pre-tax profits have risen steadily and will be not less than £2.5 million in the year to the end of December, but whether Betacom is able to maintain its recent growth rate is less certain. The market for replacement telephones is growing but the competition is not getting any easier.

In addition, higher interest rates look certain to begin biting hard into consumer expenditure as soon as Christmas is out of the way. Home-owners struggling to pay off credit card bills may decide they can do without a new phone.

Nevertheless, the issue should go well. Institutional holders of Cannon Street, whose shareholders are being offered more than half the issue, will probably find time to write out their cheques, even if the offer does clash with British Steel. Expect a smallish premium.

Powell Duffryn

Powell Duffryn has long languished in the City's eyes under the tag "solid but unexciting," and pre-tax profits for the half-year to end-September, dead in line with City expectations at £13.52 million, a 17 per cent increase, will do little to alter this.

The company has long prided itself as a high-income stock, and a prospective yield this year of 6.9 per cent, on top-end dividend forecasts of 21p, is nothing to be ashamed of.

But there are signs that under Mr David Hubbard, the chairman, who is credited with much of the defence work that repelled Lord Hanson in

1985, it may be heading for more exciting times.

One straw in the wind was yesterday's full presentation to more than 40 fund managers at SG Warburg, PD's merchant bank, which represented an innovation for the group.

Another is the half-dozen acquisitions made by its fuel distribution business over the past 18 months, with more planned.

Prospects for its biggest business, fuel distribution, inevitably depend on this winter's weather. After first-half losses, the French network may now be considered for disposal, while the much larger British business was hit by an over-supply of oil.

The growing building materials side, in joint venture with ARC, offers Powell Duffryn something of a two-way bet, as a mild winter would be a boon.

The decision to re-flag the shipping fleet in the Isle of Man cost £893,000 net but should be recouped in lower costs over 20 months.

Its shares have outperformed the market in the run up to figures on buying for the dividend. They fell 2p to 418p on the figures, a trend likely to continue in the short term.

Currently they offer a price earnings multiple of 10.5 times, on forecast pre-tax profits of £38 million this year. Given the yield, the shares have their attractions in the longer term.

JSB group profits double to £1.55m

By Our City Staff

JSB Electrical, the Unlisted Securities Market emergency lighting and fire detection group, increased pre-tax profits for the year to end-September to £1.55 million from £771,000.

Turnover was up 52 per cent to £11.86 million from £7.81 million. Earnings per share rose 84 per cent to 19.14p from 10.43p. A final dividend of 2.7p is declared making 4.0p against 2.5p for the previous year.

Mr David Smith, the chairman, said the current year had started well, and he expects continued strong demand for

its products, with a further improvement in operating margins. Emergency lighting sales increased 49 per cent to £8.7 million, and fire detection sales grew by 78 per cent to £1.9 million.

The results include those for Mannin Circuits for the eight months since its acquisition.

JSB is to raise £1.7 million, net of expenses, by the issue of 1.05 million new 20p ordinary shares, by way of a rights issue on a one-for-five basis at 165p per ordinary share. The rights issue will increase the company's capital base, and provide working capital for expansion.

Free trade pact nearer after Canadian election

From John Best Ottawa

The decisive re-election of Canada's Conservative government, bringing with it the likelihood of early implementation of the free trade agreement with America, brought jubilation in the Canadian business community.

Foreign exchange markets also responded favourably, boosting the Canadian dollar.

Mr Roger Hamel, president of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, said the Tory win would mean a stronger economy "and that's going to benefit all Canadians."

He depicted the decision as "a victory of reason over emotion."

Mr Thomas D'Aquino, president of the Business Council on National Issues, termed the electoral result "a rejection of the politics of isolationism and protectionism."

The two opposition parties, the Liberals and the New Democrats, campaigned hard against the free trade agreement signed by President Rea-



Wilson: deficit 'too high'

gan and the Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, this year and scheduled to take effect from January 1. They contended it would endanger Canada's social security structure and undermine the political sovereignty.

In the last week of the election campaign, the business community apparently invested Can\$1.5 million (£680,000) on advertising designed to ensure a Tory victory and quick enactment of the free trade accord.

In his victory speech, Mr

Mulroney promised the Conservatives, with their renewed mandate, would proceed to push free trade-enabling legislation through Parliament.

The legislation has been passed once by the House of Commons, but was blocked by the Liberal-dominated Senate. The action of the non-elected Senate ensured that Canadians would be able to vote on the issue of free trade before the agreement, already ratified by the US Congress, takes effect.

The business community also supported the Tories for their deficit reduction policies - Canada has a Can\$321 billion national debt. In their first four years in office the Tories reduced the annual budget deficit from Can\$38 billion to about Can\$28 billion.

Mr Michael Wilson, the Finance Minister, praised the business community by declaring that reducing the deficit remained "very much the priority."

"It is still too high," he said. "We've got to get it down."

Guinness Mahon hive-off hits GPG

By Lawrence Lever

Profits at GPG, which was formerly known as the Guinness Peat Group, fell slightly from \$38.3 million (£21.0 million) to \$37.0 million in the year to September 30 1988.

Moreover, the company, which hived-off Guinness Mahon, its merchant bank subsidiary, in June, has reduced its final dividend by more than half.

With last year's results adjusted to take into account the demerger of Guinness Mahon, the dividend is 0.64p compared with 1.55p. This brings the total payout for the year to 1.74p (2.65p).

According to GPG, Equitcorp, the New Zealand group which owns 61 per cent of the company, "has advised the board that it confirms that its shareholding in GPG is regarded as a long-term investment."

In addition, GPG revealed a \$4.2 million extraordinary loss made up largely of the costs of the demerger of Guinness Mahon and "the revaluation of certain assets."

Earnings per share fell from 11.71 cents to 8.59 cents. Turnover was \$80.4 million compared with \$70 million in the previous year.

Mr Grant Adams, the chairman of GPG, said the result was "satisfactory in a difficult business climate and is a fair indication of profit levels which should be achieved from these businesses in the current year."

GPG now has "a strong liquidity position" Mr Adams added. This follows the sale of shares in GPA Group, the aviation group, for \$218 million last month and, according to Mr Adams, "repayment by GPG of a major bank facility of \$141.5 million."

Midi purchase angers Axa

Paris (Reuters) - Groupe Axa, the European insurance group, said yesterday that its defensive link with Compagnie du Midi has been strained by Midi's decision to buy a stake in Société Générale, the bank which was privatized last June, via Marceau Investissements.

An Axa spokeswoman said: "There is a problem with cohabitation and of trust."

Midi's shares soared yesterday, hitting a year's high of Fr1,640 (£152.13) in hectic, early business - up by Fr65 from Monday's close - in response to French press reports of a rift. Traders speculated that a rift would again

make Midi vulnerable to a takeover bid.

The Axa spokeswoman said that M Bernard Pagezy, the chairman of Midi, told M Claude Bebear, the head of Axa, about Midi's move last Friday - before Monday's announcement on the Socgen stake. Midi bought Kleinwort Benson's F400 million share in a Marceau unit which holds almost 10 per cent of Socgen.

The Axa spokeswoman confirmed the French press reports that M Bebear was angry about not being informed of Midi's decision sooner.

Midi officials were unavailable for comment. Traders said buying in Midi took off

suddenly after a firm start - they reasoned that any rift would give Assicurazioni Generali, the Italian insurance company, an opportunity to build its Midi stake. Generali owns about 16 per cent of Midi, having gained official clearance in July from the French banking committee to buy up to 20 per cent of the French insurer.

Midi linked its insurance interests through a cross-shareholding pact with Axa as a defence against Generali's approaches. Axa owns nearly 30 per cent of Midi, while Midi took just over 50 per cent of Axa.

£37m contracts placed for Osprey oilfield

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Contracts for the first stage of the Shell-Esso Osprey oilfield in the North Sea have been placed, providing an estimated 300-400 jobs in the North-east and Scotland.

The contracts, worth £37 million, have been placed with companies at Leeds, Walsend on Tyne, Aberdeen, Birmingham, Bellshill, Strathclyde, and Acton, West London, as part of the first stage of the £200 million development.

The oil from Osprey will be brought ashore using two

subsea production systems, linked by pipeline to the existing Dunlin platform.

By 1991 Osprey, which lies in 518 feet of water, 112 miles north-east of the Shetlands, will be sending 21,000 barrels a day to Dunlin for transport to the Sullom Voe oil terminal in the Shetlands. Osprey holds about 158 million barrels of oil, of which 60 million could be recovered, with gas from the field being used to drive the power generation equipment in the Dunlin platform.

COMPANY BRIEFS

DELMAR GRP (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.03 (£0.18)m
EPS: 0.23 (1.48)p
Div: nil

HOBSON (Int)
Pre-tax: £0.70 (£0.65)m
EPS: 1.33 (1.22)p
Div: 0.25p

MONKS INV TST (Int)
Pre-tax: £3.46 (£2.43)m
EPS: 3.16 (2.20)p
Div: 1.50 (1.20)p

WALKER & STAFF (Int)
Pre-tax: £1.02 (£0.12)m
EPS: 6.1 (3.4)p
Div: n/a

RADIO CITY (Fin)
Pre-tax: £1.02 (£0.36)m
EPS: 25.15 (7.88)p
Div: 6p (nil)

Company is confident that given the necessary impetus and drive this business will see considerable future expansion.

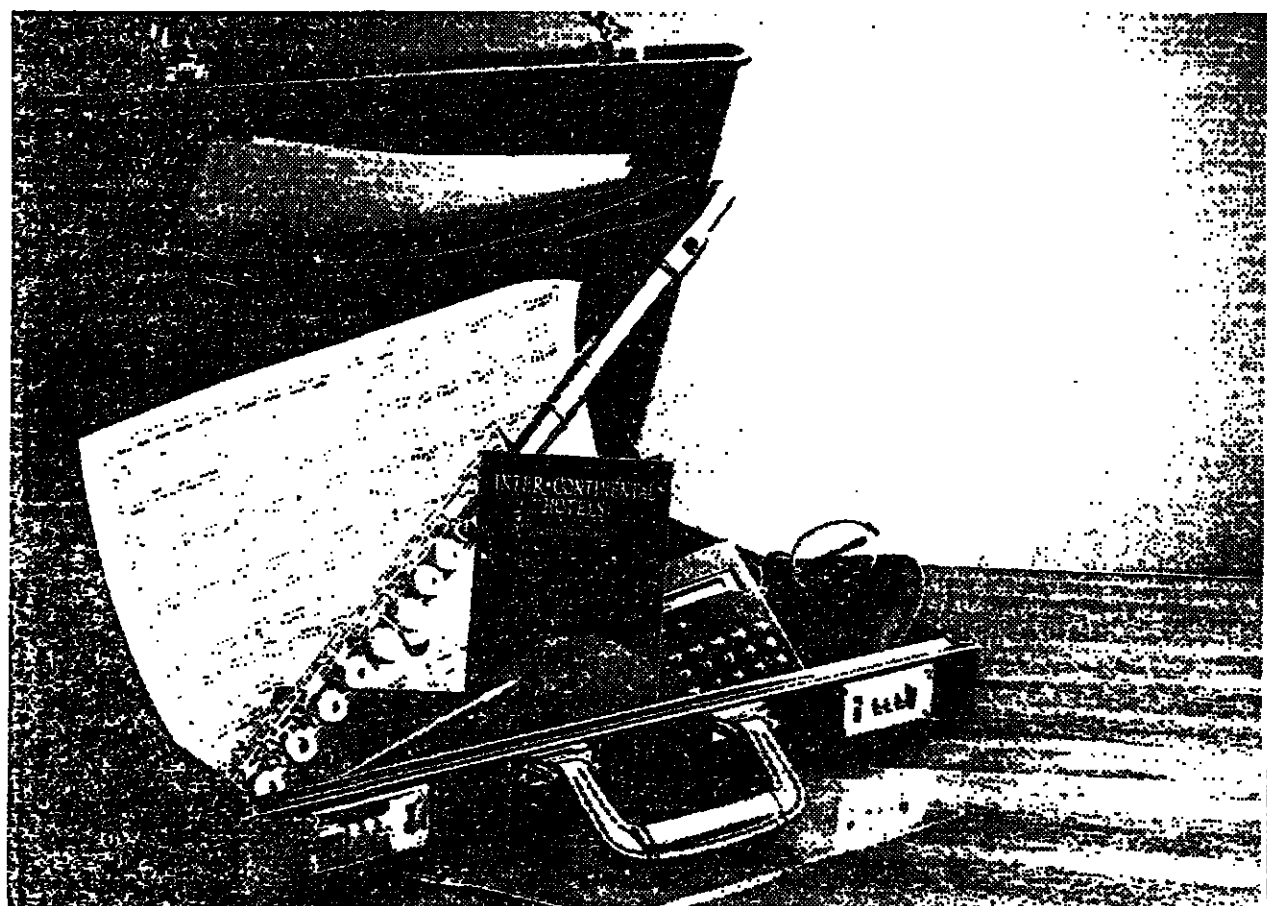
The chairman reports that the strategy the group has been pursuing is now beginning to show positive benefits.

Net asset value 279.9 (266.3)p. The final dividend for the current year will not be less than the 1.80p paid last year.

Turnover £3.49 (£3.06)m. Results for the full year are expected to exceed those of previous years.

Turnover £3.84 (£2.87)m. The company is confident that satisfactory rate of growth is being maintained.

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POWELL DUFFRYN

Interim Results 1988/89

Pre-tax profits up 17%

	Half year ended 30th September 1988	Year ended 31st March 1988
Profit before tax	£13.5m	£11.5m
Earnings per share	14.0p	12.1p
Dividends per share	6.0p	5.25p
		18.5p

The group has made a sound start to the year with excellent results achieved by Shipping, Bulk Liquid Storage, Engineering and Construction Materials. Profits from Fuel Distribution were affected by highly competitive market conditions especially in France. Given a reasonably cold winter and some improvement in trading conditions in Fuel Distribution, we anticipate finishing the year on a strong note.

David Hubbard, Chairman

POWELL DUFFRYN plc
London Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 2AQ, 0344 53101

One of Britain's most interesting industrial groups

DISTRIBUTION AND STORAGE - ENGINEERING - CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS

Bank of Scotland to raise £100m in preference issue

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Bank of Scotland, in a typically innovative move, yesterday announced a £100 million placing of preference shares, which is believed to be the first by a British bank for at least 40 years.

The issue, which will pay a perpetual dividend of 9.25p, represents a substantial increase on the bank's existing £50 million of capital and reserves.

By using the unusual form of preference shares, the bank is able to raise equity capital without the need for a rights issue which could depress the price of its ordinary shares. The issue has the support of

Standard Life, the bank's largest shareholder with 34 per cent.

Mr Hugh Young, the company secretary, said: "We are the first bank to spot this opportunity and there may only be a limited appetite for preference share stock among institutional investors so we wanted to do it before anyone else." Cazenove, the broker, is handling the issue.

Mr Young said that if this route had not been open to the bank it would have raised subordinated loan capital instead. But this would not have been as satisfactory because under the new Basic Committee rules

on bank capital adequacy, an increase in equity capital would eventually have become necessary to maintain the required ratios of "core" and loan capital.

The new funds will be used to support a rapid rise in lending which has brought the bank's capital adequacy ratios under increasing pressure. At the half year, Bank of Scotland announced a £14.4 billion rise in assets to £12.4 billion.

The bank said lending is rising rapidly in the second half, although its risk-asset ratio is above the 8 per cent Basic Committee rules minimum. Mr Young said the

capital is not being raised to pay for the purchase of Girobank. "We pulled out of the Girobank sale some time ago and still have no interest in it."

The issue commits the bank to an extra £9.25 million in dividend payouts each year, on top of the existing payout which amounted to £23.4 million in 1987. Since the preference shares rank before ordinary shares, the holders would not receive a dividend only if Bank of Scotland suspended all dividends. Although the new shares will be quoted separately, the ordinary shares rose 7p to 357p.

17% rise at Powell Duffryn

By Our City Staff

Powell Duffryn, the fuel distribution-to-shipping group, raised pre-tax profits by 17 per cent to £13.52 million in the traditionally quiet six months to September 30.

The interim dividend is increased from 5.25p to 6p. The shares lost 2p to 418p on the figures, although these were in line with City forecasts.

They had risen abruptly at the end of last week as a market-maker ran short of stock ahead of the figures, said Mr David Hubbard, the chairman. The group will take a £750,000 profit into pre-tax profits at the year-end from its decision to sell its 1.3 million shares in Carless, the independent oil company, to Kelt Energy, which is bidding for Carless.

The stake was taken several years ago when PD became interested in Carless's downstream activities, which include more than 500 petrol stations. The group will continue to be interested should the bid succeed and Kelt decide to sell these.

In its quietest half, the fuel distribution business saw trading profits fall from £3.35 million to £2.51 million, hit by high supplies of oil and consequent heavy competition.

Meanwhile, the construction division raised profits by 22 per cent to £2.12 million despite an unexpectedly low level of road works in its South Wales base which held back aggregates sales. The growing cement brick operation boosted its proportion of construction materials profits from 24 to 33 per cent.

Temps, page 26

Betacom valued at £25.4m

HARRY KERR



Windfall possible: Dennis Baylin

By Cliff Feltham

Cannon Street Investments, the industrial holding company which claims to have more than 40 millionaires on its payroll, is floating its Betacom telephone equipment company on the stock market valuing it at £25.4 million.

Cannon Street, which will retain 29 per cent of the business, is offering shares at 82p each.

Betacom forecasts profits before tax of £2.5 million for this year against £2.3 million for the previous 13 months. The company, which claims to sell more telephones than British Telecom and also markets fax machines, was bought by Cannon Street last year for £7 million. A further £8 million has been put into the business since.

Mr Dennis Baylin, chairman and chief executive, stands to collect a windfall if the shares perform — he has options on 1 million shares at 60p which can be exercised after three years.

Cannon Street, which nearly collapsed during the banking crisis of the 1970s, came to the Unlisted Securities Market in 1985.

Temps, page 26

ItaB asked to replace its chairman

By Lawrence Lever

The Bank of England has indicated to ItaB, a UK bank based in the City of London, that it would like to replace its chairman — apparently because of his previous association with Mr Roberto Calvi, the Italian financier found hanged under Blackfriars Bridge six years ago.

The Bank has told ItaB,

which, although a UK bank, is owned by two Italian banks, that it did not consider Mr Mario Borluzzi, its chairman, a "fit and proper" person under the Banking Act.

An ItaB spokesman said Mr Borluzzi was appointed in July after a restructuring of the ownership of the bank. It appears that, due to an over-

sight, the Bank of England was not informed of his appointment, nor of the change in ownership.

ItaB has a single office in Cannon Street in the City of London and specializes in the provision of finance to Italian exporters.

ItaB declined further comment yesterday.

Property group up to £5.8m

Shaftesbury, the property investment and development company with a core of assets in London's West End, had pre-tax profits for last year up from £217,000 to £5.8 million. The group saw an increase in revenue from properties to £2 million, a surplus on sale of properties of £2.6 million, and £3.1 million profit from associated companies.

Shaftesbury, whose shares jumped 7p to 185p on the results, says assets are now up to 218p a share from 132p. Investment properties, valued at £37.3 million, represent a surplus of £7.4 million. Shareholders in the company, which was floated last year, collect a final dividend of 1p.

Fairey Group oversubscribed

The Fairey Group offer for sale was 1.7 times oversubscribed, with more than £60 million in shareholders' funds chasing £23.1 million of new shares in the engineer.

Applications have been scaled down, excepting priority applications from employees and other investors wanting up to 2,000 shares. Requests for 2,500 shares will receive 2,000. Beyond that and up to 20,000, investors will receive 75 per cent. Applicants for 25,000 shares will receive 15,000, and those for between 30,000 and 140,000, 50 per cent. Those for between 150,000 and 250,000 will get 71,000, and for 300,000 and above, 25 per cent. Dealings are set to start next Tuesday.

£10m at AGB

AGB Research, the market research company taken over by Mr Robert Maxwell's Pergamon organization, had full-year pre-tax profits of £10.6 million. The company was forced to write off £43.5 million arising out of its failure to break into the American television audience-measurement market.

Dwyer's deal

Dwyer, the rapidly growing property investment and trading company, is buying nine commercial properties from The Manufacturers Life Insurance in deals worth £9 million in cash. The properties have an annual rent roll of £700,000.

Lofs changes

The capital restructuring at London & Overseas Freighters, the tanker group, passed by shareholders yesterday, raises £4.5 million in new funds. It leaves Seneca Shipping Corporation with 64 per cent of the group but the Takeover Panel says it will not have to make a full bid.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Ranks puts a value on its brand names

Right or wrong, RHM's blockbusting brand revaluation breaks new ground in a key area where British company balance sheets have been deficient for far too long. Companies like RHM which have prudently written off substantial amounts of goodwill arising on acquisitions over the years have shorn themselves of both borrowing powers and the ammunition to fight off the predatory attentions of bargain hunters with attractive brand names fixed in their sights.

Rowntree's management may well regret that it paid far too little attention to this aspect of its business, allowing the auction for control to start at what might otherwise have been seen as a ridiculously low level.

The CBI and others who have been whingeing at British vulnerability to aggressive takeover bids, would do well to promote the RHM approach.

This is not to say that Interbrand, the consultancy which gave us hundreds of trademarks like Rover's Maestro, Metro and Montego as well as Sainsbury's Homebase trademark, has perfected the techniques which it appears to have developed almost singlehandedly.

But the methodology blazes a trail for others. Interbrand started with a list of factors significant to the valuation of a trademark, such as brand leadership, stability, market position, advertising support and longevity. After considerable debate and second-opinion taking, these factors were distilled into seven key measures which were given weightings according to their overall importance. From this emerged a "brand score" which was applied to recent profits of 60 brands to give an earnings multiple. These ranged from the high teens for a successful brand to the low single figures for one with little success and few prospects. The average multiple for RHM's brands, was around 11, according to Interbrand.

RHM's balance sheet will not as a result achieve the impossibility of a precise valuation of its trading assets. But for certain it bears more relation to reality. That is to be welcomed.

Importing legal delay

Grand Metropolitan seems to be acting as a bad loser, rather than an innovator, in resorting to the High Court for a judicial review of the Takeover Panel decision which cleared Pernod to win control of Irish Distillers. GrandMet's doctory Allen Sheppard may have drawn the wrong conclusion from his other takeover battle in the United States.

There, Pillsbury's board is using every self-seeking legal device to overturn the verdict of the market and the interests of shareholders, employees and Burger King franchisees. That is frustrating for GrandMet, but the message is that the United States would be better off having a clear and accepted

takeover code, such as the one which operates in Britain, instead of being a paradise for lawyers.

Importing the law's delay, uncertainty and expense into the British system would be a retrograde step that would eventually require a statutory system of control. It would also make nonsense of the endless bleating by the City about delays caused by reviewing the effect of large takeovers on the national interest.

Precedent has established that Panel decisions are open to legal review on grounds of rationality and correct procedure — and also that the High Court is not simply an extra level of appeal. Wise men have long ceased to place bets on anything in the IDC saga, but GrandMet will certainly have its work cut out to show that a 40-page judgement, arrived at after two weeks of work by the Panel executive, plus one-and-a-half days of hearings by the full Panel and three further days of consideration, was arrived at unreasonably.

A step forward

Her Majesty the Queen did not mention John Elliott of Elders IXL in her speech, but the heavy handed entrepreneur was in the Government's minds when it decided to bring undertakings given to the Office of Fair Trading within the law.

At present, companies are on their honour to fulfill undertakings to, say, sell a subsidiary or a brand to allow a merger to take place which might otherwise be tossed to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. However, Elders' action in mopping up Scottish & Newcastle shares minutes after a reference was announced, has brought home the fact that the merger business is now about obeying the rules as written — rather than keeping to the spirit of convention.

The move to make undertakings enforceable in law is not exactly welcome, for it is a reminder that times have changed and that we are moving inexorably towards the lawyers' paradise that serves for merger control in the United States. But it is probably necessary.

The grounds for mergers to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission are unchanged: competition, competition and competition. Only in the most unusual circumstances, runs the official line, is any other factor taken into account. Not everyone is convinced.

The changes in the Companies Bill will alter only the mechanics of mergers, but the pre-notification arrangements, requiring prompt action from the Office of Fair Trading — in the absence of which the merger will be "waived through" — must be a step forward, if only because they will allow the OFT more time to look at the really controversial deals and extract binding undertakings from the players.

Parkway jumps 266% to £4.8m

By Martin Waller

Mr John McKimmie's Parkway Group, the fast-expanding pre-press services company, has unveiled four more overseas acquisitions, a £27.3 million rights issue and pre-tax profits up 266 per cent to £4.81 million in the year to end-September.

The continuing expansion at Parkway — whose latest purchases bring to 26 the total since its USM launch in July last year — is funded by a huge share issue. As well as the 12.89 million shares issued at

220p in rights, a further 5.77 million are going to the four vendors.

The shares, very firm ahead of the figures, dropped 17p to 270p.

Parkway is buying the Beckmann Group of Hamburg for £10.32 million and two related Italian companies, Transcolor and Colorlux, for £8.92 million, in transactions which represent the company's first moves into those two countries.

It is adding two further

cities to its US network with the £4.14 million acquisition of Kieffer-Nolde of Chicago and the £1.60 million purchase of Tartaro, based in Manhattan.

The rights issue is on a three-for-five basis, with the board not taking up its entitlement to a third of the issue and Parkway's three advertising agency founding shareholders, WCRS, Lowe Howard-Spink and Bell, all seeing their holdings reduced.

A former finance director at

WCRS, Mr McKimmie plans to build a global pre-press network which would prove attractive to large clients planning trans-national advertising campaigns.

Mr McKimmie is strengthening the rights issue with a 2p final dividend, giving a 3p total, doubled from the notional payment last year.

Mr Neil Blackley, an analyst at James Capel, the broker, is looking for £12.3 million pre-tax for the current year.

Night out for the analouts

London's pharmaceutical analysts this week painted the town red, and earned the dubious accolade of becoming a new brand of City lagers at least in Chinatown. For the 45-strong team organized by Morgan Stanley's Lindsay Jenkins, spent the evening at the World restaurant off Shaftesbury Avenue, where custom pils and orange slices were flung in time-honoured tradition. But, according to Miss Jenkins, things went from bad to worse as the white wine flowed. The mystery guest promised on the invitation, which read like a stockbroker's bullish note, turned out to be none other than Nigel Savage, fund manager at Rothschilds. He awarded fictitious prizes to members of the party, supposedly awarded by relevant companies. These included a "Man About Town" award, from LIG, the condom manufacturer, a bottle of Sudafed Elixir from Wellcome for the man who achieved the greatest success in putting his foot in his mouth, and Robin Gilbert of James Capel, as the doyen of the pharmaceutical analysts' community, was treated to a striptease. Mind you, women's liberation was also the order of the night as Miss Jenkins, well known for her love of flying, was also the victim of a visitor, this time though, it was a dashing World War I flying hero, complete with leathers and goggles.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Beaujolais price race

The price of a bottle of Beaujolais Nouveau in London is clearly dear to the hearts of City Diary readers. After reporting yesterday that Savory Millin salesmen were taken aback by paying £6.35 for a bottle in their local, the George in Borough High Street, traders at First National Bank of Boston in London's Victoria Street called

ed to say their local, Methuselah's in Victoria Street, is selling the stuff from £7.50 a bottle. However, I am told by another banker that Bow Wise Vaults has the price up to £8.25 — admittedly for a bottle of Georges Dubouche. But as the boys from First National say, after you have a few, you do not notice the taste — or the price.

Tokyo owes

Leave your wallet in a taxi in Japan and the driver will chase after you to return it, the contents untouched. But companies? In the year to June, tax evasion by leading companies in Tokyo and its three neighbouring prefectures reached a new peak. All but one

of the 2,206 companies investigated had hidden some of their income, says the Tokyo Tax Administration bureau. The amount of income concealed? ¥328.1 billion or about £1.5 billion. It is enough to make the Italians jealous.

Ridley rides in

Sir Adam Ridley, a Hambros director and one of the judges of the 1988 Best BES Awards, was a former special adviser to Chancellors Sir Geoffrey Howe and Nigel Lawson, and as such is considered to be one of the brains behind the Business Expansion Scheme. As the prizes were awarded in London on Monday, Ridley himself was thought to deserve one. For, during the deliberations he travelled from Hambros' offices in Tower Hill to solicitor Nabarro Nathanson, which sponsors the awards, in Green Park by motorcycle in nine minutes. Mind you, he was lucky to arrive in one piece.



Meet my son - he's learning to become a leisure analyst.

Rollalong rescue

You may think it is cold here now, but for the armed forces stationed in the Falkland Islands, comfort and warmth may be on the way. A Dorset firm has won a £750,000 order to supply do-it-yourself buildings for soldiers to keep warm in the 100 mph icy winds on the South Atlantic islands.

The two portable buildings, made by a firm called Rollalong from Three Legged Gross, a village near Verwood, Dorset, are being shipped out in flat packs to the Falklands next month. After their arrival in the new year, they will be airlifted by helicopter to the bleak and desolate mountain ranges of the islands where they will be assembled by the Royal Engineers. As well as a kitchen area, the buildings have a bar and they are fitted with thick insulation panels.

Dick Mills, the Rollalong project leader, says: "They have been built to twice the insulation specification laid down for houses in England and Wales so hopefully they will retain the heat a lot more."

A special instruction course on how to build the two complexes has been held at the firm's base for soldiers from the Royal Engineers in Wiltshire who will have the job of putting them together. Better late than never.

At a dinner the other night in London an American woman guest asked her aristocratic English neighbour the timely question of when Britain celebrated Thanksgiving. He turned to her and said loftily: "Actually, on July 4."

Rosemary Unsworth

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BBC North East



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Knowledge of the Station's editorial area and audience, and experience in broadcasting techniques, an advantage.

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If you're interested in a real challenge contact John Watson, Manager, Radio Cleveland or Peter Dodson, News Editor, Radio Cleveland on 0642 225211.

Please send s.a.e. for an application form (quote ref. 2617/T) to Recruitment Services Assistant, BBC, Broadcasting Centre, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds LS2 9PX.

Completed application forms should be returned by 5th December, 1988.



Sky Television is undergoing major expansion and development to gear up to become the world's first four channel broadcasting organisation and requires the following staff:-

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STUDIO CAMERA OPERATORS
LIGHTING SUPERVISORS
LIGHTING ASSISTANTS
SUPERVISOR - STUDIO SOUND
FLOOR MANAGERS
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MAKE UP SUPERVISOR
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You'll be based at the new complex currently under development in West London (Osterley).

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Louise Stott,
Personnel Officer,
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AREA SALES MANAGER

North of England

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Crain Communications Ltd is seeking a London-based EDITOR for EUROPEAN RUBBER JOURNAL, the leading technical/news publication covering all aspects of Europe's rubber industry.

The person appointed must be a seasoned journalist/author with extensive hard-news-gathering and management experience. He or she must be prepared to be a 'hands-on' editor, active in every step of monthly magazine writing, reporting, editing and production. It is essential the person be able to write clear, concise English; commission articles from outside contributors; tightly edit those contributed articles to Crain Communications' style; manage a small, hardworking London staff as well as a string of international correspondents; and have the professional presence to deal personally with leading industry executives across Europe.

Industry knowledge and experience is a major plus, as is the ability to speak additional European languages and to handle a camera. The person selected also must have the commitment to work the long hours sometimes necessary to put out the quality product ERJ's readers have come to expect. An early starting date is preferred.

The editor's post which has opened up as a result of internal promotion, will entail a fair degree of overseas travel and carry with it a highly attractive salary.

Please send applications with full details of your education and work experience, along with samples of your written work, to:

Paul Mitchell, Managing Director, Crain Communications Ltd, 20/22 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4EW, England.

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Contact George Waga on (01) 258 0866 or write with full cv to:

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The candidate will preferably have experience in the Skin Care/Toiletries/Beauty Care field and must certainly be able to illustrate a successful track record in some of the activities listed above.

Our offices are based in Byfleet, Surrey and a relocation package is available to the successful candidate if necessary.

This is an excellent opportunity for a young Marketeer to play a major part in the development of what will undoubtedly become one of this country's foremost retail chains.

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MEDIA & MARKETING

Punch-drunk management

OPINION

Libby Purves

United Newspapers, the grapevine says, will soon release the puff of white smoke indicating a new editor for *Punch*. It must have been the worst two months in the magazine's life, with the sudden removal of David Taylor as editor, the exasperated departure of acting editor Russell Davies, the vanishing of its arts editor, and various other upheavals.

To lose one editor in a year may be accounted a misfortune; to lose several looks very much like carelessness. The proprietors will no doubt be trumpeting their new acquisition with public pride, but deep down they should be ashamed. Just like a mother with a suspiciously high turnover of nannies, they cannot be entirely exonerated of blame.

Taylor was given just nine months. Nine months? To re-settle a delicate, eccentrically balanced organ like *Punch*? Were they so wrong then, last Christmas, to appoint him? Or did they merely run out of nerve in the face of wobbling circulation statistics? The new editor's job offer will feel a little bit like an invitation to marry Henry VIII — flattering, but precarious.

It is not just *Punch*. More and more, it seems, management are trying to deny the fact that magazines have souls. They think there is a magic, management-course formula for success. They think success can be gauged within a few weeks (witness the ruthless IPC closing of *Rings*). They also think that editors are totally interchangeable like pieces of Lego, and that readers can be won by poaching a famous new editor.

Well, they are wrong. A good magazine with steady readers (and therefore happy advertisers) is a complicated organism. It is a collegiate structure, a band of brothers. Of course a group of slick professionals with little in common can certainly produce a magazine — as witness all the flat, pretty, soul-less free glossies. But if you want

readers to pay a pound or more, you must offer them red meat, properly cured: articles not just tossed off to fill a hole between the ads, but married in the atmosphere of an office where the staff are sharing ideas without paranoia or resentment. On a good day, every member of staff down to the new typist leaps on the first finished issue, and means in actual pain if the colour is a bit wrong.

Such magazines do still exist, even within big corporations: *Yachting Monthly* lives far up the dreaded IPC tower, but it has had only four editors in 30 years, and manages to give the lovely impression of being produced beneath a swinging paraffin cabin-lamp by people who wouldn't dream of taking money for the privilege. *Harper's Bazaar* kept its essential eliteness even after it moved to Condé Nast's Vogue House. I know, because I was brought in from outside as its new editor, and promptly left when I understood that a magazine could not be edited well without an almost blind love and commitment, which I could never quite muster. The late Mark Boxer took over, loved it dearly, and made *Tatler's* peculiar party atmosphere safe again.

A feature of magazines with souls is that the editorial staff are deeply suspicious of the management. The management ought to accept this, as zoo-keepers accept the odd bite. It is not the role of a zoo-keeper to keep switching around the cages and trying to cross-breed pandas with polar bears on the whim of its accountants. Nor should it expect every species to develop at the same rate and grow to the same size. *Punch* will never make a huge profit, but it is an ancient and eccentric title, and it belongs to the nation. Like a listed building, *Punch* should be protected even from its owners: if the proprietors do not respect the title, they ought to sell it to someone who does. The author has contributed to *Punch* for 18 years.



Off-beat winner: Helmut Newton's impression of a Clarks Desert Boot

Top dogs at IPA

What makes successful advertising campaigns successful? Analysis of winners of last week's Advertising Effectiveness Awards run by the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising (IPA) shows there is more to it than persuading consumers a product is worth buying.

It is an open secret among advertising professionals that the sales effectiveness of many campaigns is greatly enhanced by (and in some cases mainly dependent on) the extent to which they convince retailers to stock the product concerned. Another indirect way of boosting sales is raising the morale of the advertiser's workforce.

Now, a third important, if seldom acknowledged, advertising goal can be added, namely achieving editorial publicity for the campaign — publicity which could cost a fortune if it had to be paid for.

This year's IPA Grand Prix for Advertising Effectiveness has been awarded to the campaign for Winalot Prime dog food, produced by the agency Ogilvy & Mather for Spillers. The document submitted by the agency to the IPA jury describes how its "Long March" television commercial, showing hundreds of dogs racing through the countryside to get at the product, took its market share from under 6 per cent in December 1986 to more than 8 per cent this spring.

In passing, the document states: "The campaign attracted the attention of the media, giving the brand significant additional publicity. The *Daily Mirror* ran a double-page spread about the advertising, and

How are advertising campaigns won and lost?

Philip Kleinman reports on the hidden targets of award-winning agencies

the campaign was discussed on BBC's *Fax* programme." The story was also covered in a variety of other newspapers and magazines.

What excited media attention was the puzzle of how the agency had managed to get so many dogs to do what it wanted. Answer: they used experienced dog trainers.

The campaign for Clarks Desert Boots, which won first prize in the Small Budgets category of the IPA contest, also benefited from news coverage of the ads which featured off-beat photographs by Helmut Newton. This is made clear in the submission by agency Boase Massimi Pollitt (renamed BMP Davidson Pearce following a recent merger). The biggest public relations coup, it notes, was a five-minute feature about the campaign on Channel 4's *Network 7* programme.

The Clarks campaign was also helped by the decision of several new retailers to start stocking the boots. Buyers at Harrods and other

purveyors of high-fashion goods are quoted as having been persuaded to take them because of the stylishness of the ads.

First prize in the New Consumer Goods and Services category also went to Boase Massimi Pollitt for its campaign for Miller Lite lager. Here again the entry document underlines the importance of retailers' reactions to the distinctive television commercials, which were "thought by them to be successful at communicating the brand's benefits to consumers and likely to lead to high sales. As a result, retail buyers were keen to stock the brand."

Yet another win by Boase Massimi Pollitt was in the Established Goods and Services category, where it took first prize with its long-running television campaign for Kia-Ora squash, aimed at coining it "the squash for kids".

Retailers' opinions were again crucial. In 1981, before the campaign was launched, Kia-Ora was trailing in third place. This year Kia-Ora is brand leader. Finally, a less obvious benefit of advertising emerges from HDM Horner Collis and Kirvan's entry for its witty press campaign for Oddbins, the wine store chain now owned by Seagram. The campaign, which won second prize in the Small Budgets category, is stated to have had a highly positive effect, not only because it bucked up store managers but because "it gained far greater recognition for Oddbins from Seagram". As a result, the parent company doubled the subsidiary's advertising budget.

Spreading the word too thin?

Multi-media ambitions are rocking the respected *Christian Science Monitor*

One of America's most respected daily newspapers, *The Christian Science Monitor*, celebrates its 80th birthday on Friday with both big plans and big problems. It is currently battling to reduce a multi-million dollar deficit, and to re-define itself as part of a larger media empire that includes TV programmes and a worldwide short-wave radio network.

These battles led last week to the resignation of three of the newspaper's top editorial staff, including its celebrated editor, Katherine Fanning. They resigned in protest over plans to cut the newspaper's 28 pages to 16 and reduce staff by up to half. Fanning said when she left that she feared the company's "obsessive

rush into diversified media" could compromise the paper's original objective and be a "serious blow" to the Christian Science church.

The *Monitor* was launched in 1908 by the founder of the Christian Science religion, Mary Baker Eddy, with a mandate to fight gutter journalism and to "injure no man but to bless all mankind". Although 90 per cent of its staff are Christian Scientists, the newspaper does not proselytize, and has built its considerable reputation on thoughtful analysis and in-depth coverage of issues such as the Ethiopian famine, which it covered well before most other US media.

It is consistently regarded as one of the top 10 newspapers

in the country and has won numerous awards, including five Pulitzer prizes. The newspaper's fortunes, however, have been shaky over the past decade.

Its readership, as high as a quarter of a million in the early 1970s, dipped to below 140,000 by 1983, and the Christian Science Publishing Society was incurring losses of

more than \$20 million a year. So the church has invested around \$16 million over the past five years to rebuild circulation with a new design, sharper approach to news, and more reporters, including Fanning, who arrived in 1983. Today the *Monitor's* circulation stands at around 170,000.

The most controversial decision was to expand consid-

erably the *Monitor's* broadcasting activities. The Publishing Society's manager, John Hoagland, sees it as a logical move: broadcasting is a way to reach more people for less money. Last year, the church launched the "World Service of the Christian Science Monitor", an international radio network broadcasting on short wave, and this autumn started a nightly domestic TV newscast, *World Monitor*, backed by a new monthly magazine, also called *World Monitor*. The TV programme is estimated to be costing the church an annual \$20 million for the first six years, after which it must break even, or be shelved.

The company claims this initial outlay is being offset by \$50 million in guaranteed

minimum payments put up by the programme's distributors. Despite Hoagland's declaration that the newspaper remains the church's "flagship" operation, some editorial staff fear that the diversification will take place at the expense of the newspaper. When Fanning quit, accompanied by her two top editors, she told reporters: "The purpose of the church being a media empire has to be examined. If indeed the purpose is to 'injure no man but to bless all mankind', then you have to ask yourself what is it that does the blessing? Is it the news, or is it the bottom line?" Hoagland retorted that the newspaper "may be the jewel in the crown of the church, but you have to have a crown to have a jewel".

Sue Woodman



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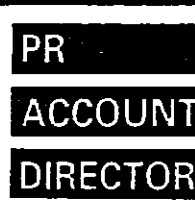
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MEDIA & MARKETING

Boxed set

TV's newest soap has a twist — it's words, not pictures

Television soap operas are facing a new challenge, and this time it has nothing to do with Scott and Charlene's wedding. On December 1 Oracle, the ITV teletext service, will present the soap you have to read. Entitled *Park Avenue*, this electronic novel will come in daily chapters roughly 400 words long taking up 10 pages, and have spare computer graphics rather than Ms Minogue *et al* in designer costume.

Although Oracle has transmitted short stories before, *Park Avenue* is a new departure for the company. The soap opera itself is a strange mixture of old and new, the electronic transmission may be 20th-century, but the words belong to the oldest entertainment tradition of all, stretching back to Dickens and way beyond. Dr Dorothy Hobson, an expert on the genre, says: "I think soaps are closer to literature than television. There isn't a direct comparison with film or drama but there is with someone like Dickens."

Set in a big city somewhere in Britain — to attract the largest possible readership — *Park Avenue* has a predictable-sounding cast list with such stock characters as an unscrupulous journalist, a female junior doctor at the local hospital, and a local estate agent.

Robbie Burns, the 27-year-old author of *Park Avenue*, is determined to inject gritty realism into his serial — so the newspaper editor's children experiment at Acid House parties, for example. And Oracle's immediacy means Burns can include news items. "If a major disaster occurred on day one, I could write it into the first episode. My estate agent is already worried about the drop in house prices."

Jane Hardy

The average audience for *Newsnight* is 1.2 million, not "around 500,000" as stated on November 12.



Two's company: the choice of Anne Diamond is defended by TV-am's Bruce Gynnell (centre). But can she successfully replace David Frost (right) on Sundays?

Seeing stars on Sunday

Where David Frost sparked and drew big names on TV-am's flagship show, will Anne Diamond merely add glitter? Paul Charman reports

The announcement by TV-am this week that Anne Diamond is to succeed David Frost as presenter of the station's flagship Sunday morning programme has renewed speculation about the company's commitment to "serious" journalism.

Camden Lock watchers are sceptical about the company's pledge that her appointment signifies "no change in the programme's high profile news and current affairs format". While many regard Diamond's undoubted professionalism as the saving of *Good Morning Britain*, few would describe her journalistic style as serious.

That cannot be said about Frost, who has given the programme a prestige and gravitas that have attracted a good deal of animosity from the more entertainment-minded TV-am executives. As an exponent of Peter Jay's "mission to explain", Frost — and David Frost on Sunday — continue to represent "what TV-am could have become, had the station evolved from the original Famous Five", according to one senior producer.

Frost leaves for the United States at the end of the year to front a new five-nights-a-week nationwide networked

current affairs programme. Although he will make a weekly contribution to the Sunday morning programme from America, his departure will not aid TV-am's struggle to be taken seriously, not least by the IBA, which finally reported this week on the station's efforts to improve.

Frost's very power to pull the big names has largely made the programme what it is. Would Bush and Dukakis, who provided Frost and TV-am with their most recent week exclusive with one-to-one interviews in the week prior to the US presidential elections, have co-operated in quite the same way with Diamond? Will Margaret Thatcher, Norman Tebbit, Paddy Ashdown (who gave Frost his first major interview after winning the SDLP leadership), David Owen and Lord Hailsham (who came to discuss *Spycatcher*) be as available to her?

Insiders feel that when Frost goes,

the seriousness of the programme will go too. There are also fears as to whether Anne Diamond can handle the big interviews. Officially TV-am is at pains to deny any change of ethos to the programme, currently peaking at between two and three million viewers. "The format won't change because we know it works," said press officer David Keighley, rejecting suggestions that Diamond is lightweight — "she is a serious news and current affairs journalist".

TV-am's managing director, Bruce Gynnell, said Diamond would take over on February 22 in an expanded programme which will include more comment, news and sports. "We want the personality of the presenter to be additional to the programme rather than the total thing," he said. "Anne has grown in stature and I personally believe she has no peer in current affairs. Frost is Frost. Walden is Walden. That will always be so. But

we are a mass audience station and we are not into narrow-casting, but broadcasting."

Gynnell confirmed that Sir Robin Day had been approached to take Frost's place in attracting the big names by doing specialist interviews in the programme, "but he said he was still under contract to the BBC and was not prepared to come over".

He added: "You can't go on using all the same old has-beens — well, not has-beens, that's unfortunate. But British broadcasting is not renowned for giving opportunity to new talent. We have got a team of young people in their late twenties and early thirties who have steadily grown in competence, and we want to give them a chance."

Before Diamond takes over, six programmes provisionally entitled "Correspondent Reports" are planned. They will showcase TV-am's reporters and will include Adam Boulton, political editor based in London; chief reporter Geoff Meade; Adrian Brown, Far Eastern correspondent; Chris Mann, based in Moscow; Tony Birtley from the Middle East; and David Foster in the US.

BYLINES

Time to play on

From now on independent radio stations can play music for as long as they like. This follows an agreement with Phonographic Performance Limited which gives broadcasting companies licences to play their members' music. Up to now PPL, which has more than 700 record companies among its members, has only allowed radio stations to play nine hours of music a day, but now it has decided to try out the experiment of unrestricted play for a year. Brian West, director of the Association of Independent Radio Contractors, is encouraged by the offer. "This is good news but we have long felt the rate PPL charge is too high. In America radio stations don't pay anything," PPL's move has been seen as a timely gesture. Next week, the Monopolies Commission will publish its report on PPL.

Still good friends

Friends of The Earth has parted company from McCann-Erickson after barely two years. Michael Freter, executive director of the agency — whose accounts include Nestlé, Coca-Cola and Esso — said the parting was amicable, and mainly due to the major changes both parties have seen in senior personnel. "We didn't do it for the money," Freter says. The account is worth just £80,000 a year.

US take-over

Three more major American magazines have been taken over by British women editors. Anthia Disney of the *Mail* is now editor of a health and fitness magazine called *Self*. Pat Miller has just left Rupert Murdoch's *New Woman* to edit Condé Nast's first down-market magazine, *Woman*, and Gay Bryant, originally from Newcastle, has replaced Miller at *New Woman*. The other established women editors are, of course, Tina Brown at *Vanity Fair* and Anna Wintour at *American Vogue*.

Cut out

Time Out's art critic, Sarah Kent, was astonished to see a recent advertisement in the magazine *Modern Painters*, the anti-modernist quarterly run by art critic Peter Faulkner. "Sarah Kent thinks Julian Schnabel is the best painter since Picasso," read the copy, adding, "Sarah Kent doesn't write for *Modern Painters*." When even more mocking ads were scheduled, managing editor Mike Hardwick had to step in to veto them on the grounds they were a shot in the foot. Ironically, *Time Out*'s editor, Tony Elliott, has a 30 per cent share in *Modern Painters*.

New world

Hyde Park Publications, which set up a year ago with the launch of *World* magazine, is now on the road to producing its third up-market specialist glossy. The environmental publishing company has secured a contract from Richard Branson's Virgin Atlantic to publish the airline's in-flight magazine. Advertising director Ray Carmen says the publication, *Upper Class*, will be a 100-page glossy.

Briefing ...

Former London Underground chief executive Dr Tony Ridley, and ex-LRT chairman Sir Keith Bright are suing the *Evening Standard*. They and LRT allege the paper libelled them in reports following the King's Cross fire a year ago. The new radio station of the Dublin-based, £5 million joint venture between Radio Luxembourg and the Irish broadcasting company RTE will not be called Radio Five. But Radio Luxembourg's chairman, Maurice Vass — who at one time wanted to call the station Radio Daisy — will continue to use Radio Five until a new name is found. Paul Vickers, programme lawyer at TV-am, has been appointed secretary of the public company, something of an achievement for a man of 38. Vickers, former libel lawyer for Maxwell's short-lived *London Daily News*, takes over tomorrow from Penelope Hughes. Adam Faith is to write a finance column in the *Daily Mail* beginning on Saturday.

Jane Slade

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The post involves liaison with the Trust's staff, with those undertaking research and development projects with support from the Trust, with academic institutions/professional bodies and other organisations working with the Trust, and with the Press and news media.

The Trust is seeking a person with imagination and flair, preferably with some knowledge of the JRM's chosen priority interests (housing (including housing finance) and social policy (including community and social care)) with expertise in relation to press relations/public relations, with competence in the organisation of Press Conferences and briefings, and with skills in communication.

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Continued from page 14

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The Managing Director of this small international publishing company requires an experienced P.A. with first class administrative abilities. The ideal candidate will be a skilled communicator and feel completely at ease running a friendly Hi-Tech international office. Good keyboard skills are essential. For further details please quote ref. E.V. 23 T1 809

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£14,000 - Languages - W.C.1
The number one magazine in international fabrics requires a smart, efficient young lady possessing first rate office administrative skills. These should include good typing/W.P. and shorthand.

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£17,000

A small international marketing team based in the West End is looking for a capable Secretary/PA to work for its dynamic MD. You will need to be efficient and accurate and to organise several things at once, as well as keeping the office running smoothly.
Age to 28.
Speeds 100/60.

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Fluent French and some German essential. Age 24+.
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Total involvement and variety are offered. You must be able to work on your own initiative, without pressure typically associated with a trading environment, not have a doubling for figures, have a good telephone voice and be of smart appearance.

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Closing date for receipt of applications Tuesday, 6th December 1988.

The Arts Council welcomes applications from all sections of the Community regardless of race, colour, ethnic or national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, disability or religious beliefs.

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MD of building company

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Fluent Spanish is essential to deal with Latin-American contacts in his absence, and a knowledge of Portuguese would be desirable. A five-day week is essential, but daily hours may be adaptable to the needs of the successful candidate.

Secretarial experience must include word-processing, along with the ability to learn to use other PC-based software. Strong organisational skills, allied to flexibility, initiative and stability are desirable attributes.

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Secretary for small Company (founded 1950) with WP experience - good telephone manner, common sense, sense of humour, team spirit essential.
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Good secretarial skills required including competent typing with audio, ability/inclination to copywriting. The company is rapidly expanding in the UK and Europe and this position could have exciting potential for the correct person.

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Working with the Personnel Officer and Personnel Manager, you will provide administrative support in recruitment and other areas, from booking temporary staff to arranging interview schedules. As you progress, your role will include conducting initial interviews, assisting in occupational testing and conducting salary and benefit surveys.

You must have a minimum of 2 'A' levels, good organisation and administrative skills. Additionally, you will be encouraged to study towards an IPM qualification.

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Package to £20,000 +

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Full training provided. Excellent opportunities. The ideal candidate should currently be working in banking, accountancy or the legal profession.

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Interesting, varied and important work.

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Up to £12,000 - 14,000

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This young dynamic General Manager based in the heart of the city needs a poised and sophisticated PA to handle top level clients. Your commitment will be rewarded in career potential.

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Further details together with application forms are available from Mrs M Jones, Personnel Secretary, British Postgraduate Medical Federation, 35 Bedford Square, London WC1R 4EJ. Tel: 01-631 0222. Closing date for applications: 9 December 1988.

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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

New unit planned to centralize property buying and development

Whitbread unzips cool £750 million

Whitbread, the international drinks and leisure business, has launched a new specialist property unit with a budget of £750 million to invest over the next five years.

The unit, Whitbread Property, has been set up as a central source to handle the company's acquisitions, property development, estate planning and major disposals. It brings together the acquisition roles of Whitbread's pubs and retail divisions, together with corporate property activities. Whitbread says that with an existing property base worth more than £1.5 billion, the unit will consolidate the company's exper-

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

ise into one main group. Hugh Siegle, managing director of Whitbread Property, says that with the company's aspirations to grow in the retail and leisure markets there was a need to pull together the team looking after the majority of its property interests.

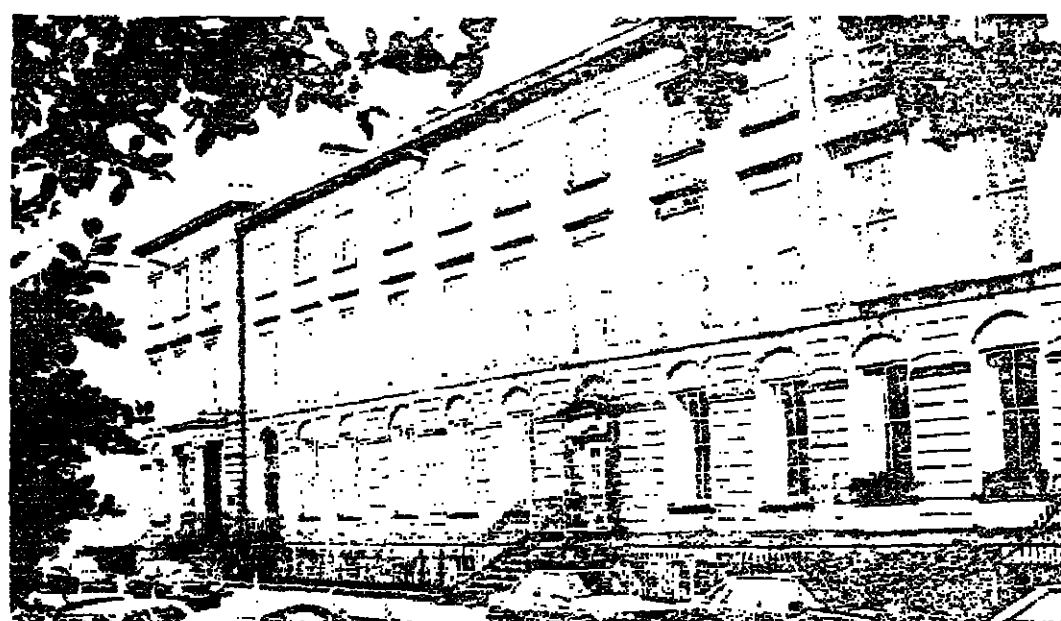
"The formation of this new unit will enable the company to make the best strategic use of its existing property assets, as well as becoming even more active in acquisition and development."

Mr Siegle says that the organizational structure of the unit had

been planned to ensure quick and effective responses to agents, developers, property owners, architects and local authorities.

Whitbread, one of the biggest property owners in the country, is looking to expand further its wide-ranging trading concepts which spread across the whole leisure industry from wine bars, themed restaurants and pubs to first-class hotels in Britain, Europe and North America.

"With a property investment portfolio of this scale and size, the launch of Whitbread Property is a logical progression towards establishing Whitbread as a leading name in the commercial property market," says Mr Siegle.



Sheraton Caltrast's prestigious 28,000 sq ft development in Blythswood Square, Glasgow, above, which was funded by the Crown Estate, has been completed and will be occupied later this year.

Based in the heart of Glasgow's financial community, the £5 million development has been let to solicitors Bishop & Robertson Chalmers, who will have open-plan accommodation on five floors as well as integral garaging for 10 cars.

Martin Gravestock, the Crown Estate Receiver for Scotland, believes the Crown Estate's investment in the property complements its existing commercial portfolio. The Crown Estate has invested more than £10 million in Scottish property in recent years, with a large commitment in the Blythswood Square area.

Hillier Parker acted for the Crown Estate on the acquisition, and joint letting agents were Edward Erdman and Bernard Thorpe's Glasgow office.

CITY SCENE

Drop in floor lettings

The letting of floor space in the City of London fell to 181,461 sq ft in October, a drop of 7 per cent on September. This is well below the May-October monthly average of 263,151 sq ft and continues the downward trend since the year's highs in June and August, according to Richard Saunders & Partners' latest floor-space survey.

Space availability in the City in October was 3,680,153 sq ft (up 4 per cent), the highest in 1988.

In the City fringe areas, October showed the level of take-up increasing by 25 per cent to 592,654 sq ft, the second highest level in 1988, while availability also increased by 3 per cent to 5,214,224 sq ft, the highest figure for the year.

RSP says the general strength of the market remains good in take-up terms, particularly in the City fringe locations.

Tenants are experiencing an ever-widening choice caused by the increased levels of availability, and demand seems to be coming from a number of sources, including the financial sector, though large dealing floors are not so often requested. RSP adds: "This scenario is inspiring caution in the approach by developers, who seem keener on either centrally located properties in good fringe locations or properties to the west of the City."

Ancient and modern

As if to answer the *cri de coeur* from the Prince of Wales, the Kinson Group yesterday announced the completion of its Charterhouse Mews scheme on the edge of the City of London, overlooking the Charterhouse Estate near Smithfield.

A combination of traditional architecture and a modern office environment, it has four newly built office buildings set around a private courtyard. Kinson will be asking more than £500 a square foot for the buildings, which range in size from 960 to 1,183 sq ft.

Peter Mills, chief executive, said the development showed that the conflict between the criteria of quality of architecture and developers' interests could be resolved to the benefit of both occupier and public.

London is second to Tokyo in office costs

A survey of office costs in the world's main financial centres shows that Tokyo, where costs have risen to more than £100 a square foot for the first time, remains the most expensive.

The survey, by Weatherall Green & Smith, puts London second, and Paris has overtaken New York to take third place. In London, the severe shortage

of space in the West End has seen a rise of one third in the past year to £80. Costs in the City have remained fairly static, increasing only 8 per cent to £38.25.

In Paris, costs, fuelled by buoyant demand and a shortage of good quality buildings, have reached nearly £47 and are continuing to rise.

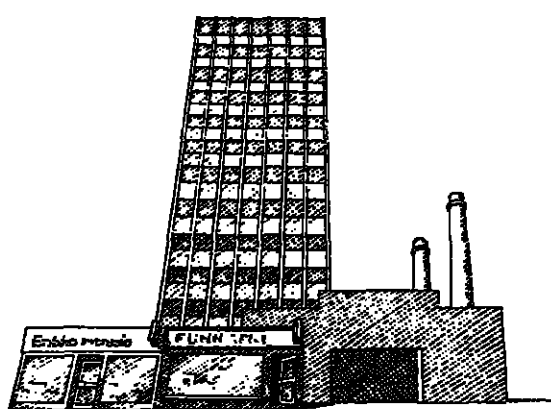
Weatherall believes that the

creation of a single European market in 1992 will lead to increased demand for floorspace in Europe's financial centres, especially from overseas companies wanting smaller units. The period up to 1992 will be of greater significance to Paris where deregulation of the stock market should lead to increased demand from financial services compa-

ies. In general, however, Weatherall anticipates that 1992 will not see any dramatic changes, and that London's pre-eminence as a financial market will not be challenged.

Total occupancy costs in Paris are £46.70 a sq ft, compared with £41.54 in midtown New York (£29.78 downtown), £38.64 in Frankfurt, and £16.42 in Tokyo.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY



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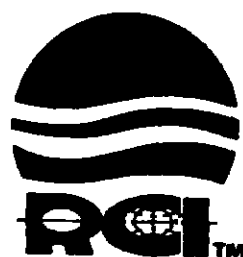
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FOOTBALL

Arsenal warned of pressures still to come by Dalglish

By Ian Ross

Kenny Dalglish, the manager of Liverpool, yesterday dismissed the notion that his side would gain any psychological advantage in the League championship by defeating Arsenal in tonight's continuing Littlewoods Cup cup.

After two highly competitive drawn games at Anfield and Highbury, the two clubs meet at Villa Park, seeking to secure a fourth-round tie against West Ham United at Upton Park.

Dalglish, while conceding that George Graham, his opposite number, had done "a good job" in transforming Arsenal's fortunes, was swift to place into perspective tonight's game.

"Last season Everton defeated us in the Littlewoods Cup but only a matter of days later we beat them in the League to prove that it didn't really matter a great deal," he said.

"We have had two good

games against Arsenal in this competition so far and I hope that the third one is going to be settled by a piece of skill rather than by someone's mistake."

While the bookmakers remain adamant that Arsenal are the team most likely to end Merseyside's prolonged domination of the championship, Dalglish hinted that the pressure of a season-long campaign could yet take its toll on Graham's young side.

"George has done a good job at Arsenal and got them into a good position in the League," he said. "The test will be how they react under pressure at the top, pressure we have had to live with for 22 years. We have looked after ourselves during that time and we are capable of looking after ourselves now."

Barnes, the England forward, will miss tonight's game as he has failed to recover from the groin injury which

forced him out of the weekend victory over Queen's Park Rangers at Loftus Road.

Burrows, the recent signing from West Bromwich Albion, is ineligible but Venison, included in a 15-man squad after recovering from injury,

Marwood, the England winger, is expected to recover from influenza in time to take his place in the Arsenal team. Marwood had to leave the field during Arsenal's 3-0 home win over Middlesbrough on Saturday because he was feeling unwell and was substituted by Hayes. Merson, who scored twice against Middlesbrough, looks certain to keep his place in an unchanged team.

Bournemouth will complete the transfer of the Watford and former England forward, Luther Blissett, to-day. Blissett watched Bournemouth lose at home to Manchester City on Saturday and agreed terms last night.

Ferguson will not alter losing team

By Ian Ross

Alex Ferguson, the manager of Manchester United, is to keep faith with his first team line-up, even though the club has failed to win a League match in two months.

Since defeating West Ham United 2-0 at Old Trafford on September 24, United have drawn six and lost one of their seven League games.

Yet, unfettered, Ferguson has named an unchanged side for tonight's rearranged League game against Sheffield Wednesday at Old Trafford, insisting that the results are not matching performances, he is generally content.

"There is no reason for chopping and changing just because we keep dropping points. Basically, we believe that we are doing fine," Ferguson said.

"I sensed a keenness to win during Saturday's game against Southampton but, at the moment, we are taking our foot off the pedal and putting in caution when it is not required. We must be more brave."

Paul Gascoigne, meanwhile, faces a late fitness test on a knee injury before Tottenham Hotspur attempt to extend their

winning streak to four matches against Coventry City at White Hart Lane tomorrow night.

Gascoigne was hurt when Spurs picked up their first League away win of the season at Sheffield Wednesday on Sunday.

Paul Walsh, the forward who has played only once in the last nine games because of a viral infection, is added to the Tottenham squad, along with two youngsters, Philip Gray and Mark Robson.

Coventry, beaten only once in their last 12 League away matches, are expected to be unchanged, with Keith Houchen continuing to deputize in attack for Gary Bannister, who is under treatment for a calf strain.

Tomorrow's match has been re-arranged from the opening day of the season, when Tottenham called it off at short notice because rubble from building work carried out during the summer was blocking exits. The postponement has cost Spurs two points. Their appeal against the punishment is due to be heard next Wednesday.

Bristol Rovers issue reprimand to doctor

Bristol Rovers have reprimanded the club doctor who arrived too late on Sunday to assist Ian Alexander, their defender, when he almost choked during the FA Cup first round tie against Fisher Athletic.

Bob Twyford, the club secretary, said: "We have sent Dr Ed Lavin a letter of reprimand, expressing our concern and asking his reply."

West Yorkshire police are investigating a complaint against Graham Roberts, the Chelsea defender, allegedly using abusive language at Bradford City on Saturday.

Burnley, beaten 2-0 by Wolverhampton Wanderers in last May's Sherpa Van Trophy final in front of 81,000 people at Wembley, made a profit of £210,000, while £614,000 was received from players sold.

No problem for Coyle

By George Ace

Roy Coyle, the Linfield manager, wrestles with a problem of a lot of team houses would rather order to replay a European Cup match to leave out for tonight's Roadferry Cup semi-final against Glenavon at The Oval.

Linfield, two points clear at the top of the table with a 100 per cent record from four games, have put together a run of 19 games without defeat despite a spate of injuries to five important players at various stages.

McGaughey and Docherty are in the squad for tomorrow night's match for the first time in a month. Coyle said yesterday: "And Kneil and Burrows

have resumed full training after missing the last four or five games. It is a good situation to be in with the tough Christmas and New Year programme only a few weeks away."

Coyle, however, would not be drawn on what his final line-up would be. "Let's say McGaughey and Docherty are not coming along just for the ride. I will name the team and substitute a few hours before the game," Coyle said.

Glenavon have Stephen McBride available after suspension and Terry Nicholson, boss at Mourneview Park, can select from a full squad.

MOTOR RALLYING: FOUR FORMER WORLD CHAMPIONS BREATHING DOWN FINN'S NECK



Something special: Alen, the rally leader, steels himself for his ordeal in the Kielder Forest

Alen shows nerves as he loses time in Forest stages

By Andrew Longmore

Not for the first time in the history of the Lombard RAC Rally, the notorious Kielder Forest stages in the Borders, which had to be cleared by snow-ploughs yesterday, had threatened to change the complexion of the race. Going into the first Kielder stage, Markku Alen, in the Lancia, had a five-minute lead but he dropped a minute through gear-slip on stage 27, struggling through the following stage and spun at Whitehill, losing a further minute.

At the end of stage 30, just over halfway through the rally, the Finn's lead had been cut to just over a minute and, with four former world champions, led by Juha Kankkunen, waiting to take advantage of any slip, his nerves were beginning to show.

Solomon's Mazda was another casualty on the ice in Kielder, losing two minutes and dropping to fifth as Kankkunen in the Toyota moved ahead of the Mazda.

Earlier in the day Alen had shown no sign of nerves as he swapped times with Kankkunen for the first five stages through the Lake District. On Grizedale, one of the longest and prettiest of all the special stages, the pair were split by only seven seconds over 17 miles as Alen marginally

succumbing to the icy conditions. The pair were equal quickest on stages 23 and 25 before Kankkunen won his first stage of the day outright by one second at Lowther Park.

But in contrast to the previous day, Waldegard, his Toyota team-mate, was the one to suffer. He had a puncture six miles into the first stage of the day and slipped to fourth.

After his off-road excursions of Monday, Malcolm Wilson, of Britain, slipped off the leader board early in the day but crept back up to tenth after 28 stages, the sole British representative in the top 10 of seven Finns, a Swede and the West German, Armin Schwarz, still performing heroics in his Audi.

Louise Aitken-Walker's troubled rally nearly ended with the lost 40 minutes stuck on a rock on the second Kielder stage.

LEADING POSITIONS (after 30 stages): 1. M Alen (Lancia), 2. M Kankkunen (Toyota), 3. J Kankkunen (Toyota), 4. J Soloman (Mazda), 5. B Waldegard (Toyota), 6. P Armin Schwarz (Audi), 7. A Schwarz (Audi), 8. A Vatanen (Mazda), 9. S Sainio (Mazda), 10. M Wilson (Mazda), 11. M Wilson (Mazda), 12. M Wilson (Mazda), 13. M Wilson (Mazda), 14. M Wilson (Mazda), 15. M Wilson (Mazda), 16. M Wilson (Mazda), 17. M Wilson (Mazda), 18. M Wilson (Mazda), 19. M Wilson (Mazda), 20. M Wilson (Mazda), 21. M Wilson (Mazda), 22. M Wilson (Mazda), 23. M Wilson (Mazda), 24. M Wilson (Mazda), 25. M Wilson (Mazda), 26. M Wilson (Mazda), 27. M Wilson (Mazda), 28. M Wilson (Mazda), 29. M Wilson (Mazda), 30. M Wilson (Mazda).

Law applies brake again on speedsters

After the detection of the Lithuanian driver, Egnajus Tumalyschius, by West Yorkshire police on Sunday, two Japanese drivers have been forced to retire from the rally after being caught speeding in Wales.

Masakazu Goto, a welder from Tsu-City, driving a Mazda, and Kiyoshi Inoue, a dentist from Tokyo, in a Mitsubishi, were stopped near Dolgellau and at a magistrate's court yesterday morning were fined £200 each and given 10 penalty points.

A spokesman for the local police said: "The rally is not all about speed on the road. The competitive parts are the special stages. If the drivers break the law of the country they must expect their licences to be revoked."

The law's heavy hand has provoked rally officials to consider a new category for their retirement board: "nicked."

The RAC Rally results are produced by the most sophisticated system seen at an international rally. Oliveri estimates that it takes only a few minutes from the time the first 12 cars have completed a stage to its giving the results to the media and Ceefax.

Two mainstream computers, 44 terminals and one mile of cable at rally headquarters in Harrogate form the heart of this hi-tech system, but sometimes good old-fashioned human endeavour is needed as well. When the phone line went down on Welsh stage on Monday, a local farmer's son ran a shuttle

service on his trials bike bringing the results from the end of the stage to a telephone in his house.

By the time all 140 competitors had passed through the stage, David Bennett-Evans had completed at least 15 return journeys and clocked up over 30 miles. "He was pretty exhausted by the end of the day," his mother added.

There was consternation among start-line officials yesterday morning when the drivers of car No. 162 did not turn up for the start of the third leg. Forty-five minutes after its allotted start time, the car was still sitting in the garage, seemingly ready to go.

The mystery deepened when the number of the hotel occupied

by the two competitors, Alessandro Degan, a stockbroker from Venice, and his brother, Lorenzo, could not be found in the local telephone book. When the pair were finally tracked down having a leisurely breakfast, they explained that they had retired because they could not find a new sun-guard and would be along later to collect the car.

"We thought they might have overslept or forgotten that there were two more days of the rally to go," a mildly startled official said.

After finding that a new windscreen fitted to his Lancia did not have the name of one of his sponsors on it, Pentti Airikkala hastily made up a sticker of his own. Generally, he might not have taken such trouble. The

problem was that the sponsors, Pusti Pakki, provide him with his mortgage.

The RAC is renowned as a family rally, but the most toothsome rivalry of the week is the one between the two drivers who opened his first stage book to find a "good luck" message in the front. It came from his wife, one of the marshals responsible for handing out the stage books at the start.

Quotes of the rally: Derek Bell: "I should have stuck to track racing." Ari Vatanen, after a troubled first day: "Is it slippery? I'm not going fast enough to find out." Ken Ridley: "This stage is only fit for two people, Torvik and Dean."

Andrew Longmore

CRICKET: VENGSKARKAR JOINS THE HUNDRED CLUB IN SECOND TEST MATCH

Jarvis lifts hope for comeback

By Martin Searby

Paul Jarvis, the Yorkshire and England fast bowler, has come through the first 48 hours of a week-long fitness test with no recurrence of the back injury that forced him to withdraw from the third Test match against West Indies and ended his season in June.

Three specialists could find no sign of damage but Jarvis experienced severe pains while bowling. Two attempts at a comeback in the second XI ended in failure.

A long course of weight-training designed by the Yorkshire physiotherapist, Wayne Morton, has proved fruitful and Jarvis said yesterday: "I have had two sessions with no reaction and although I have only bowled a fairly gentle pace that is more than I could have managed last summer."

"I will build up to top speed towards the end of the week and, hopefully, that will be the first step on the road to full recovery."

It's been a very worrying time. When nobody could find anything visibly wrong with me it made things even worse and I thought at one time I was never going to get any better."

Jarvis traces his problem back to the World Cup and England's tour of Pakistan. "I lost a stone in weight and although I put it back on it was not muscle. Wayne has told me I need to replace 10 pounds of muscle on my back and shoulders."

Jarvis will rest next week to see if there is any reaction apart from stiffness. He will continue the programme of weight-training and running when he returns from his honeymoon shortly before Christmas.

N Zealand's daunting task

From Javed Akhtar Bombay

New Zealand have the unpleasant prospect of facing the Indian spin quartet on a brown turning pitch at the Wankhede Stadium here when the second Test starts tomorrow, making their hopes of wiping out the first match deficit almost impossible.

The match will be of special significance. Dilly Vengskarkar, the Indian captain and local hero, who will become the seventh player, after Gavaskar, Cowdrey, Boycott, Lloyd, Gower and Richards, to play in 100 Test matches. "I am very happy that I am playing my hundredth Test in front of my home crowd. It will be an emotional moment for me," Vengskarkar said yesterday.

The pitch looked very firm and fast, he said. "The New Zealand wicket was not very hard

underneath. To me the match looks as if it would end in a draw unless one side bats very badly. We will definitely try and win."

Vengskarkar was apparently cautious in his assessment. His former team-mate and opening batsman Sudhir Naik, who has supervised the preparation of the pitch, said: "It will be a slow turning wicket. On the first day, it will help the seam bowlers in the first two hours." Naik was of the opinion that the pitch would hold on for all the five days and would not crumble. "The batsmen will have to concentrate and bat. Then only they can stay on the wicket for a long time," Naik added.

The last two Tests on this ground, both involving West Indies, were drawn but otherwise from 1979 onwards no Test match lasted the distance. Pakistan, Australia and two England sides have all tasted defeat since then. The only visiting team to

win was Mike Brearley's team in the Golden Jubilee Test in 1980. History is also not on the side of New Zealand, who have lost three and drawn one of the four Tests they have played in Bombay.

New Zealand arrived late last evening from Goa and could not have a look at the pitch. "We will approach the match in a positive way. We would like to have a lot of grass on the wicket but if it is not there we will have to go for a batsman's wicket. The grass is in a state of transition," Ken Deas, the New Zealand manager, said.

INDIA FROM: D B Vengskarkar (capt), K Sridharan, Anil Kumble, M Ashwin, M Atkinson, Kapil Dev, R J Shastri, K S More, V V Raman, Maninder Singh, N Viswanath, S Sharma, R Patel, A Ayub, M Venkataratnam.

NEW ZEALAND FROM: J G Wright (capt), J Frawley, A Jones, M Granger, R Rutherford, E J Gray, R J Hadfield, C M Hogg, J G Bracewell, M C Swadlow, I D Smith, E J Watfield, T E Smith, H V Vance, D K Morrison.

Umpires: H B Gupta and V K Ramaswamy.

Imran puts board on spot

By Richard Streeton

Any decision the board would be taken in the knowledge that Imran would carry out his threat not to serve as captain and that he might not go on the tour to Australia for the forthcoming one-day World Cup matches in Australia.

Imran confirmed to officials yesterday that he will not lead the side, due to leave on Sunday, unless severe changes are made to the 17-strong party announced last week.

Several board members were adamant last night that they would not agree to overruling the captain's choice. They pointed out that Imran has seen little domestic cricket in Pakistan for several years and that the selectors are better placed to evaluate current form.

Abdul Qadir's domestic problems, which previously were not going to allow him to tour, have also eased, apparently, since Imran returned to the captaincy. Qadir might be able to join the tour late. The selectors are

anxious, however, not to disappoint too many others who presumably felt their tour places were guaranteed.

The present row stems from a disagreement between Imran, Alam, the team manager and senior selector, and Imran. Imtikhla claims that Imran approved the 17 names by telephone from Lahore before they were released. Imran, when he arrived in Lahore on Monday from India, where he has been playing charity matches, said he had reserved the right for further consultations.

Shoaib Mohammad, the son of Hanif and an established Test batsman, is one of the players not selected who Imran wants to take with him.

Support for Anderson over professional foul

By Clive White

Managers who add to the widespread condemnation of Viv Anderson, the Manchester United and England full back, by voicing their opposition to the professional foul have been accused of hypocrisy by a fellow professional.

Anderson, who was yesterday charged by the Football Association with bringing the game into disrepute for approving of such a foul in his new biography, received the support of Steve Wickes, the former Chelsea centre back who was forced to retire in September because of a back injury. Wickes maintains that most managers would "go berserk" if any of their players did not try, by fair means or foul, to stop an opponent from scoring.

"They would probably sack him," Wickes said. "Managers are always trying to pull the wool over people's eyes. What they say in public and what they think privately are two different things. At least Viv was being honest."

Wickes, who was sent off only once during an exemplary career lasting 16 years at the highest level, admitted: "We've all

committed the professional foul. Ninety-nine per cent of professionals would do it if they had to. Things happen so quickly on the field that it is instinctive for a defender to try to stop forward from scoring."

Short of awarding a goal against perpetrators, Wickes believes that there is little that could be done to stamp it out. "Players would still do it even if they knew they were going to be sent off," he said.

Managers who say they are against it are putting unfair pressure on players," he said. "Wickes would like to see the FA adopting a tougher line on dangerous play. 'I've never been able to understand why you should get four disciplinary points for swearing at a referee, yet only three for committing a foul which could break someone's leg,' he said."

Wickes has been delighted to find a greater emphasis on skill in the United States, where he is considering the offer of a contract as coach and general administrator with Tampa Bay Rowdies, managed by Rodney Marsh. He is clearly excited about the prospect of playing a part in the buildup to the World Cup there in 1994.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS
SEMIAL: Bulgarian cross-country Cup: Men: 22min 45sec; 2. B Sturua (Fin), 22min 45sec; 3. V Roussou (Greece), 22min 45sec; 4. A Gouma (Greece), 22min 45sec; 5. J Stokas (Finland), 22min 45sec; 6. J Carrer (Spain).
WOMEN: 24. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 25. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 26. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 27. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 28. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 29. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 30. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 31. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 32. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 33. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 34. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 35. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 36. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 37. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 38. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 39. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 40. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 41. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 42. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 43. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 44. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 45. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 46. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 47. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 48. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 49. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 50. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 51. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 52. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 53. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 54. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 55. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 56. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 57. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 58. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 59. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 60. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 61. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 62. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 63. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 64. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 65. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 66. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 67. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 68. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 69. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 70. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 71. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 72. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 73. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 74. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 75. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 76. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 77. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 78. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 79. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 80. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 81. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 82. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 83. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 84. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 85. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 86. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 87. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 88. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 89. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 90. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 91. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 92. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 93. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 94. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 95. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 96. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 97. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 98. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 99. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 100. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec.
WOMEN: 24. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 25. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 26. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 27. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 28. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 29. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 30. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 31. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 32. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 33. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 34. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 35. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 36. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 37. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 38. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 39. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 40. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 41. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 42. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 43. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 44. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 45. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 46. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 47. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 48. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 49. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 50. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 51. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 52. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 53. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 54. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 55. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 56. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 57. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 58. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 59. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 60. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 61. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 62. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 63. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 64. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 65. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 66. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 67. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 68. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 69. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 70. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 71. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 72. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 73. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 74. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 75. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 76. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 77. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 78. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 79. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 80. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 81. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 82. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 83. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 84. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 85. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 86. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 87. A. W. (Finland), 24min 45sec; 88. A

